

Group emerges after attack

KUWAIT (AP) — An organisation calling itself "the Suicide Tigers" has claimed responsibility for this week's raid in Jerusalem and has warned that similar attacks will be made on U.S. and Israeli interests worldwide, the newspaper Al Ra'i Al Aam reported Wednesday. The Kuwaiti paper said a spokesman of the hitherto unknown organisation called by telephone from London and claimed responsibility for the Monday raid in which 50 people were injured. The spokesman warned that the organisation would carry out "similar suicidal operations against American and Israeli interests inside and outside Israel," the paper said. The organisation would spearhead those raids from several Arab and European capitals, the paper further quoted the spokesman as saying. No further details were given, the paper added.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية مستقلة منشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Israel admits soldier missing

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel Wednesday refused to confirm that a soldier who went missing in Lebanon a year ago was now a prisoner of Palestinian commandos. An army spokesman told reporters Israel notified the International Committee of Red Cross a year ago that one of its soldiers was missing in Lebanon. He refused to say whether he had been captured by the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) commando group. The DFLP announced in Damascus Tuesday it had captured Sergeant Samir Asaad, an Israeli Druze. It said it would release him in exchange for two commandos seized after a gun and grenade attack which wounded 48 people in Jerusalem last Monday. Military sources said Israel notified the Red Cross in April, 1983, that Sgt. Asaad was missing after failing to report to his unit in Sidon.

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Gemayel receives Hussein's message

BEIRUT (J.T.) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Wednesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein concerning the current Arab situation and developments in the Middle East. The message, delivered to Mr. Gemayel by Lebanese Ambassador to Jordan Sameer Habekka, also dealt with Jordan's continuous efforts aimed at crystallising a unified Arab stand towards various issues facing the region, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Arafat, N. Yemeni leader hold talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had talks Wednesday with North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on latest Arab and Palestinian developments, the Bahrain-based Gulf news agency said. Mr. Arafat arrived in Sana'a Tuesday for a conference of Palestinian writers in the North Yemeni capital.

Syria responds to Arens' warning

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria's government controlled media on Wednesday responded to a warning from Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens by threatening to retaliate "very severely" to any Israeli aggression. The response on Damascus Radio and the government newspaper Tishrin came after Mr. Arens warned in a radio broadcast that Israel would not allow Syria to wage a war of attrition on Israeli occupation troops in Lebanon. The counter threat broadcast on Damascus Radio said: "Any aggression against Syria will be returned very severely."

Soviet navy stages major war games

OSLO (R) — The Soviet navy manoeuvred off northern Norway Wednesday, with bombers staging mock attacks on fighting ships in a rehearsal of defensive operations against Western naval power. North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) countries reported. Ships and reconnaissance planes from six NATO countries kept close track of the Soviet exercise, the largest Moscow has mounted in the strategic Norwegian and North seas. Norwegian Defence Ministry officials said there was considerable air activity and the emphasis appeared to be on aerial attacks and anti-aircraft defence, with some submarine exercises.

200 Moroccan aides trapped in Guinea

RABAT (AP) — Nearly 200 military and civilian officials from Morocco have been trapped in Conakry by the Guinean military coup, Moroccan sources reported. The officials were sent to the Guinean capital to help prepare for the summit meeting of the Organisation of African Unity, which had been planned for next month. They also had attended the funeral of President Ahmad Sekou Toure. Moroccan officials said they had no contact with their staff in Conakry since the army coup and had no information on the identity of the leaders of the coup.

Guinean army appears in control

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Beirut violence flares as factions seek talks

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Sporadic clashes flared in Beirut Wednesday as a security committee of rival Lebanese factions prepared to renew efforts to consolidate a shaky ceasefire.

Radio stations reported intermittent exchanges of machinegun and rocket fire between mainly Muslim forces facing loyalist Lebanese army units backed by predominantly Christian militiamen along the line dividing Beirut and in nearby hills.

The right-wing mainly Christian "Voice of Lebanon" said a man was wounded in the eastern part of the city.

An argument between leftist militiamen and Lebanese police guarding the only road open between east and west Beirut underlined the uncertainty of the week-old truce.

Well-armed fighters of the Shiite Muslim "Amal" took charge of part of the western end of the "museum crossing" where departing French troops last week handed over a buffer zone to a neutral force of Lebanese police and French observers.

At midmorning, high-ranking police officers arrived and negotiated with an Amal official, Hassan Yateem, and after a few minutes the militiamen began drifting away and the police regained their position.

"Neutralisation" of the museum crossing has so far been the only major achievement of a "higher security-political committee" entrusted with establishing a durable ceasefire.

Amal leader Nabih Berri repeated a call for restoring "hope by enforcing a real ceasefire."

"We need to start building Lebanon anew and not just patching up the old Lebanon," he was quoted by the state radio as saying.

The "higher security committee," representing the mainly Christian Falange Party, the Falange-led "Lebanese Forces," Amal and the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), has failed to agree on how to separate the combatants or establish a stable truce.

The committee was to meet under the chairmanship of President Amin Gemayel at the presidential palace in Baabda later Wednesday.

The Wednesday meeting was the sixth session held by the committee since its formation a week ago, and a government official said the deliberations would be "crucial and decisive regarding the disengagement plan."

Sniper fire and mortar and rocket-propelled grenade exchanges picked up around noon along the "green line" dividing Beirut into mainly Christian and mostly Muslim halves.

The failure of another all-party security committee chaired by President Gemayel to silence the guns has so far blocked discussion of vital political issues.

To end the deadlock, Mr. Gemayel plans to visit Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in the next few

days, official sources said. The Syrian leader has assumed a central role in the Lebanese crisis since Beirut scrapped last May's U.S.-sponsored troop withdrawal agreement with Israel shortly after an Assad-Gemayel summit in early March.

The caretaker cabinet of Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan met under Mr. Gemayel's leadership at the presidential palace Tuesday. It was the first meeting of the cabinet since Lebanese reconciliation talks ended in Switzerland in March.

A statement released after the meeting said the cabinet accepted the resignation of Zahi Bustani, the general security chief whose ouster had been demanded by the Lebanese opposition. It appointed another Maronite, Jamil Nehme, as acting chief of general security.

Attacks in south

In South Lebanon, local fighters attacked an Israeli military vehicle near the village of Zifza, state-run Beirut Radio reported. It said the vehicle was set on fire and there was an unknown number of casualties.

The radio said the southern city of Tyre staged a general strike Wednesday in protest at "arbitrary Israeli measures against southerners."

The south remained cut off as Israeli troops continued to block the only road linking it with the rest of the country, the radio said. The road, from the town of Jezzine to the village of Baier, has been open for only two days since the Israelis cut it last Thursday as part of curfew measures after a landmine wounded four Israeli soldiers.

Nasir condemns Birzeit closure

By Lamin K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The forced closure Monday of the Palestinian Birzeit University in the Israeli occupied West Bank by the occupation authorities constitutes "a blatant violation of human and academic rights," the university's president, Dr. Hanna Nasir, said Wednesday.

Dr. Nasir, who has been exiled by the occupation authorities since 1974, said the closure of the university was totally unjustified and "we condemn the collective punishment imposed on the university's students."

The Israeli army announced Monday that it was closing the "new campus" of the university for allegedly allowing a "violent" student demonstration, referring to four days of protests staged by the students to mark the eighth anniversary of Land Day on March 30.

Land Day commemorates the death of six Israeli Arabs in protests against the Israeli government's appropriation of Arab land in 1976.

The closure of the university Monday was the ninth since 1967, when the Israelis occupied the West Bank and Gaza.

In January 1984, the occupation authorities ordered the regular campus of the university closed charging that it was becoming a "centre for hostility" against the occupation rule.

Since the closure in January, the university conducted its classes in tents and half-finished buildings in a "new campus," the construction work of which has not been completed.

Monday's order affects the "new campus," as well as reinforces the closure order on the old, regular campus.

Dr. Nasir said: "The closure order is an arbitrary measure on the part of the Israeli authorities which aim to hamper and block the education of our people and to expunge the Palestinian identity by continuous harassment of our educational institutions."

"Despite these repeated and unjustified disruptions, Dr. Nasir said, 'we pledge to maintain the high standard of education at Birzeit.'"

The university president added that he has sent memorandums in protest against the Israeli move to the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) and the United Nations General Assembly as well as the Association of Arab Universities currently holding its annual meeting in Algiers.

Dr. Nasir appealed to the international community and various world organisations to exert pressure on the Israeli occupation authorities to re-open the University "to enable the Palestinians to continue their educational process."

New chief for Israeli allies in S. Lebanon

BINT JBAIL, Lebanon (Agencies) — Antoine Lahd, a retired Lebanese army Brigadier, took command of the Israeli-backed militia founded by the late Maj. Saad Haddad at a ceremony Wednesday in this village less than four kilometres from the Israeli border.

Mr. Lahd, a Maronite Christian, told a crowd in this predominantly Shiite Muslim village that with Israeli help he hoped to expand the recently renamed "South Lebanon army" from its present 1,500 militiamen to about 6,000.

In an earlier interview with the Beirut newspaper An Nahar, Mr. Lahd said: "The South Lebanese army will be the sole force in the south. All other forces will be suppressed."

An Israeli army spokesman in Tel Aviv said the Lebanese army had appointed Mr. Lahd "in co-ordination" with Israel, but Mr. Lahd said there was no co-ordination between his 2,000 men and the Beirut government.

He described his relationship with Israel as one of "co-ordination," saying Israel would exercise control in areas where its troops were deployed, and he would be in charge outside these areas.

He said his men now controlled an enclave stretching 10 kilometres north of the Israeli border.

NATO wary of 'star wars'

CESME, Turkey (R) — A two-day nuclear planning meeting left North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence ministers Wednesday apparently unconvinced about the United States' "star wars" research programme for a space-based defence against nuclear missiles.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger told reporters he had given the ministers a dispassionate, technical and scientific briefing about the research launched last year by President Reagan.

But West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner said he and his European colleagues had raised many critical questions about the effectiveness, consequences for Europe and impact on nuclear stability of the development of defensive systems.

"I think it is legitimate and necessary for the Americans to do research and development but I remain as sceptical as before about the idea of the West being the first to deploy such system," Mr. Woerner said at a separate news conference.

Mr. Weinberger denied the European reaction had been "hostile or critical or anything of the kind."

Asked about Mr. Woerner's remarks, he said: "I did not hear the minister make any such comments."

NATO allies press Netherlands to deploy missiles, page 2



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (right) Wednesday holds talks with his Spanish counterpart, Fernando Moran, who arrived in Amman Tuesday on an official visit (Petra photo)

No Middle East solution without PLO involvement, Moran says

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — There can never be a solution to the Middle East problem without recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran said Tuesday.

Mr. Moran, who arrived here Tuesday on an official four-day visit to Jordan, said Spain's stand towards the Middle East conflict and insistence that the PLO be involved in any peace effort have been clear from the very beginning.

The foreign minister, who visited Riyadh and Damascus before his arrival in Amman, also said that although Saudi Arabia and Syria differ over the 43-month-old Iran-Iraq war "they share identical views and stands" concerning the Middle East problem.

Mr. Moran said he met with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad prior to his departure to Amman Tuesday and held "informal talks" on the latest political developments in the area and Spain's relations with Syria, "but nothing of tremendous importance" was discussed.

"Syria is playing a very important role in the region now," Mr. Moran told the Jordan Times.

"and it is normal (for the Spanish foreign minister) to visit Damascus as Spain is willing to play a bigger role in current efforts to reach a solution to the conflict in the area."

Mr. Moran is the first Spanish cabinet member to visit Syria since the visit of the Prime Minister Mario Soares in 1978.

In Syria, Mr. Moran also met with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara and Parliament Speaker Mohammad Zoubi.

The Spanish minister said Jordan plays a very important role in the region as far as the Middle East conflict is concerned and that he chose Amman to be his last stop in his Middle East tour for talks aimed at further boosting Spanish-Jordanian relations.

Mr. Moran is scheduled to meet Thursday with 10 ambassadors of Spain in the region to "exchange views on the situation in the area and review the Arab-Spanish relations."

He denied that Spain has signed an agreement to supply Jordan with military assistance, but he did not rule out the idea of such a deal in the future.

Responding to a question on His Majesty King Hussein's recent statements criticising the U.S. policy in the Middle East, Mr. Moran said the King's remarks were "very wise." He did not elaborate.

In reply to a question whether Spain is under pressure from the European Community (EC) countries to recognise Israel prior to its entry to the European group as suggested in reports from Madrid, Mr. Moran said there is no such pressure.

However, the attitude of Britain towards the EC by not paying its financial commitments "can hamper the expected entry of Spain to the group in 1986," Mr. Moran pointed out.

During his visit to Saudi Arabia, Mr. Moran met with Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal in Riyadh where they reviewed the situation in the Middle East and discussed the Iran-Iraq war.

Reports from Riyadh confirmed that Mr. Moran had signed an agreement to supply the kingdom with \$100 million worth of Spanish arms and other military equipment, Mr. Moran told the Jordan Times that "the deal has not been finalised yet."

Mr. Moran's visit to the Middle East came after a visit to Jordan by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez one month ago. Mr. Gonzalez met with King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and reiterated Spain's support for the PLO and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their soil.

Indian, Soviet cosmonauts dock in space

MOSCOW (Agencies) — India's first spaceman and his Soviet counterparts on Wednesday successfully docked their Soyuz T-11 spacecraft with the orbiting Salyut-7 space station to join three Soviet spacemen on board there, Soviet television reported.

The television announced that the docking was completed at 18:31 Moscow time (1431 GMT). Television showed various officials at the space centre in Baikonur in Central Asia watching the closing seconds of the docking process and applauding its completion. The Indian-Soviet crew had blasted off from the space centre only 25 hours earlier.

Indian cosmonaut Rakesh Sharma, 35, and two Soviet cosmonauts, Mission Commander Yuri V. Malyshev, 42, and Flight Engineer Gennadi M. Strekalov, 43, were to join the three cosmonauts who have been on board Salyut 7 since Feb. 9 for a "celebration dinner," Radio Moscow said.

Mr. Sharma, a 35-year-old squadron leader in the Indian air force, was blasted into orbit Wednesday along with the two Soviet cosmonauts amid a roar of publicity unprecedented in the Soviet space programme.

It was the first time six people had been in orbit aboard what is effectively the same vehicle — the Salyut-7, the Soyuz T-11 and a Soyuz T-10 already attached to the space station.

Among those watching the television pictures of the docking in the space centre was Indian Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman.

After docking, the cosmonauts began routine procedure to equalise pressure between the spacecraft and the station to allow them to pass from one to the other.

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovoyov and Oleg Aikov, who have been in orbit for nearly two months, have said they are looking forward to the supplies being delivered, including pineapple and mango juice, dehydrated bananas, mango fruit bars and other traditional Indian food.

Asked whether Britain had conceded the sovereignty principle during negotiations, Mr. Wu said: "We hold that Hong Kong is Chinese territory. This problem has already been solved in principle. Britain has shown understanding on the issue."

Hong Kong was ceded to Britain in the 19th century. Peking has maintained since the communist takeover of the mainland in 1949 that Hong Kong is Chinese territory.

Reports from the colony have said that a basic Anglo-Chinese agreement could be announced in June or July.

Wu calls on Soviets to scrap missiles aimed at Asia

VIENNA (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian called on the Soviet Union on Wednesday to scrap nuclear missiles aimed at Asian targets and called anew for a pullback of Soviet troops from the Chinese border.

Mr. Wu also said China guaranteed the "prosperity and stability in Hong Kong" after Peking assumes control towards the end of the century. Hong Kong business has been dealt a few setbacks recently due to uncertainty over the future of the British colony.

Mr. Wu suggested China was

sympathetic to Western arguments that NATO deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe was needed to counteract a Soviet nuclear threat.

Speaking to reporters near the end of a three-day visit, the minister said China demands the "dismantling and destruction on the spot" of Soviet SS-20 nuclear missiles targeted at Asia.

"We demand from the Soviet Union the pullback of its troops from the border and Mongolia," he added.

The missiles, and Moscow's refusal to reduce its troop strength along the Sino-Soviet border and in neighbouring communist Mongolia, are sore points between the former allies, who are negotiating on these and other differences.

Asked about the Hong Kong business community's concern about its future under Chinese administration, Mr. Wu offered a "guarantee of the prosperity and stability, not only now but after the creation of full Chinese sovereignty."

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Spanish minister begins talks in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visiting Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran Wednesday met Jordanian officials to discuss Middle East issues and Spanish-Jordanian co-operation in information, cultural and sporting affairs.

At a meeting with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, the Palestine problem and Jordan's stand in relation to a settlement based on U.N. Security Council resolution 242 were discussed.

Mr. Masri spoke about Israel's measures in the occupied Arab areas which he said are designed to Judaise Arab territory and to evict the indigenous population from their homeland in order to establish settlements there.

"Israel is intensifying its current campaign by removing Palestinian refugees from their camps to areas in the Jordan Valley," the minister said.

For his part, Mr. Moran briefed Mr. Masri on Spain's firm stand vis-a-vis the Palestinian problem and its demand for a total Israeli withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied since 1967.

After their closed meeting, the two ministers were joined by aides to discuss bilateral relations and ways of bolstering Jordanian-Spanish co-operation in various fields.

Mr. Moran earlier met Information Minister Laila Sharaf for a discussion on co-operation in the production of documentary films on Middle East affairs and Jordanian political issues.

They also explored the prospects for exchange visits by information officials from both countries.

At the meeting, the two ministers also exchanged views on the role of the Arab media in promoting Arab causes in the Spanish and European arenas, and also ways of promoting bilateral cultural co-operation.

Television Director Munir Al Durra and Spain's ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Emilio Menendez, also attended the meeting.

Later on, Mr. Moran met Minister of Youth and Culture and Antiquities Abdullah 'Oweidat with whom he reviewed Jordanian-Spanish co-operation in cultural, sporting and archaeological affairs.

At the meeting, Mr. Moran extended an invitation to Dr. 'Oweidat to visit Spain and for a Jordanian delegation to take part in an Islamic art festival which will be held in Spain on May 26.

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GCC states urged to reduce car imports

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — A prominent Saudi Arabian traffic director has called on the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to cut down on car imports as a partial remedy for the traffic accidents whose rate was "of the highest in the world."

Addressing a symposium at the Bahrain Ministry of Interior, Abdul Jalil Al Saif, director general of organisation and planning at the Saudi Interior Ministry, said

that the ratio of deaths in Gulf states due to traffic accidents was 37 to the 100,000.

The GCC groups the Arab states of the Gulf region — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Bahrain — in an economic integration and collective security pact.

Mr. Saif said that out of \$8 billion estimated by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to have

been forfeited in the world in 1981 in "material losses, medical costs and administrative expenses," caused by traffic accidents, the GCC states were responsible for \$1 billion.

"Perhaps it can be said that the GCC states can bear the material costs, but under no circumstances can the GCC states afford to waste their most precious element, the human resources," Mr. Saif told the symposium.

Citing other indicators of the spiralling rate of traffic accidents in the region, Mr. Saif said that the number of accidents in the year 1971 was 23,142, which rose to 133,524 in 1983.

The number of injuries caused by car accidents were 7,057 in 1971 and 36,281 in 1983. The total of fatalities in traffic accidents was 1,043 in 1971, and it shot up to 4,352 in 1983.

The GCC states in 1971 — before the oil boom — registered a combined total of 344,644 cars. In 1983, that figure had spiralled 15-fold — to 4,967,540 cars. There was a car now to every 2.4 persons in the GCC states, he said.

"The indicators necessitate a quick re-evaluation of what we have a reconsideration of the size of our import of cars should be among the priorities," he recommended.

The symposium was mainly for police patrols on the occasion of the traffic week for the GCC states scheduled for April 28.

Mr. Saif complained that in the GCC states traffic police cause more accidents than common civilians. Generally, he said, the rate of accidents was 12.6 per one million hours of driving "compared with 18.4 accidents per one million hours of driving for the police patrols."

This meant that police patrols account for 5.4 per cent accidents per one million driving hours above the rate for civilians," he said.

Abu Jihad ends visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) deputy military commander, Khalil Al Wazir, left Kuwait Wednesday after a brief visit during which he held talks with Kuwait's Premier and held apparent Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Sabah, Palestinian sources said.

They told Reuters the talks dealt with the PLO's near-term strategy and the Palestinian issue, but gave no details.

They did say, however, that delegations from the PLO would shortly embark on tours of a number of Arab and East European countries to discuss what were the latest developments in the Palestinian problem. They were unable to confirm reports that Mr. Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, left Kuwait for Aden.

South Yemen's Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Al Dali told the United Arab Emirates News Agency in Abu Dhabi Wednesday that he expected PLO factions to meet shortly in Aden to try and bridge their differences.

Britain wants end to Gulf war, freedom of navigation

DOHA (Agencies) — Britain's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Richard Luce said Wednesday Britain's main policy objectives in the Gulf were an end to the Iran-Iraq war and freedom of navigation in the area.

Mr. Luce, who arrived in Doha on Monday for talks with Qatari officials, told Reuters in a joint interview with the Qatar News Agency: "It is a British concern, as it is a Gulf concern, to see the war ends and to see the stability and the freedom of navigation in international waterways."

Iran has threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf if Iraq disrupts its oil shipments. Britain, together with the United States and France, have warships deployed in the area, and President Reagan has said Washington would not tolerate a blockade of the strait.

Mr. Luce said Britain was maintaining a neutral stand on the 42-month-old war, which he described as "a massive loss of life

and an abuse of humanitarian and international conventions."

He said his government was deeply concerned about reports of Iran's use of children in the war and the alleged use of chemical weapons "which we condemn very strongly."

Mr. Luce said Britain's naval presence in the region should not be exaggerated because "the fact that two of our ships have been patrolling south of the Gulf is something that has been happening for a very long time. We have always had naval vessels coming to the region."

"We are taking certain precautionary measures and not trying to exacerbate the situation," he added without elaborating.

Arms for Jordan

Turning to Middle East issues, Mr. Luce said Britain was prepared to look into any requests from Jordan for arms supplies, but said the matter was not discussed during last month's visit to Jordan by Queen Elizabeth.

"We stand ready to support, as we have in the past, the people of Jordan in the proper way and we will look at any application for arms very carefully," Mr. Luce said.

President Reagan has last month withdrawn a proposed sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, among Washington's closest allies in the Arab World.

Mr. Luce said that his country "strictly forbade" the sale of lethal weapons to the two warring countries in the Gulf.

He said the Soviet Union should participate in future Middle East peace-making.

He said his country remained neutral between the two warring Gulf states and had "strictly banned" sale of lethal weapons to either party.

HOTEL AMMAN CROWN

REDUCTION IN MEMBERSHIP FEES

The management of "Amman Crown Hotel" announces its decision to reduce the membership fees for the "Sports Complex" of the hotel project effective from 1/4/1984 as under:

	Previous Fee	Present Fee
1- Subscription fee (per family - non-recurrent)	JD 75. —	JD 50. —
2- Yearly membership fee (Each of the parents)	JD 30. —	JD 25. —
3- Yearly membership fee (each child)	JD 15. —	JD 10. —

MEMBERSHIPS TO FAMILIES ONLY NO BACHELORS ALLOWED

The management of the project has decided to restrict memberships to FAMILIES ONLY and not to allow bachelors into the Sports Complex unless they are guests of the members.

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Eban, Ghali, hold talks

CAIRO (R) — A leading figure in Israel's opposition Labour Party, former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, had talks here Wednesday with Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali, the Foreign Ministry said.

A ministry spokesman said the two men discussed Middle East developments and bilateral relations, but declined to give further details.

Mr. Eban, who arrived Tuesday night on a two-day visit at Mr. Ghali's invitation, will deliver a lecture to Egyptian diplomats on "new diplomacy," the spokesman added.

Opinion polls in Israel show Labour running well ahead of the ruling Likud Party in the run-up to general elections in July.

U.S. aid may help to solve Sudan's problems

By Ahmed Shawki
Reuters

KHARTOUM — The United States will embark soon on several major development projects in Sudan, where a government is hobbled by mounting debts and what it says is Libyan-backed guerrilla insurgency.

U.S. officials said projects would include new roads, land reclamation and energy schemes in troubled southern Sudan.

The officials said they hoped that roads, for example, would help the government to police the area, while these and other economic improvement measures would ease grievances among local people exploited by rebel recruiters.

"We feel this road network is a basic need," a Khartoum-based U.S. aid official told Reuters in an interview. He said a lack of roads in the jungles of southern Sudan helped rebels to launch "hit-and-run attacks and ... find refuge."

"We think this road network is the answer for the current communication problem," he added. He said the road network would

cost \$118 million. U.S. aid would provide \$47 million while the African Development Bank and Sudan would find the balance.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the south fought bitterly for secession from the north.

President Jaafar Numeiri, who took power in a 1969 coup, ended that war in 1972, granting wide autonomy to the south.

But trouble flared again last year after he ordered an administrative reorganisation there and introduced Sharia Law throughout Sudan. The present rebels want his removal and wide political and economic concessions.

Diplomats in the area stress Sudan's strategic importance, commanding the middle reaches of the Nile, vital to Egypt which is a key U.S. ally in the Middle East.

Rebel attacks have halted work on the Jonglei Canal, a major irrigation scheme designed to boost agricultural output, and have shut new oilfields that had started producing crude for Sudan at a rate of 50,000 barrels daily.

The U.S. aid official said work on the new projects with American help was due to start next year.

He said one road will link the southern city of Juba with the Kenyan border and another will link the south with the two cities of Kosti and El-Obeid in western Sudan, where new agricultural projects are planned.

The official said \$70 million U.S. aid has also been allocated for agricultural, health and manpower development projects in the south.

He said \$14 million of U.S. aid was already being spent on projects to increase Sudanese energy output, mainly to dredge silt from the important Rosieres Dam to increase its electricity output.

Most Sudanese cities are liable at present to electricity cuttings in some cases more than 10 hours a day. "We are also planning to put an extra \$20 million over the next two years to improve the energy output in Sudan," he added.

The officials said U.S. economic aid to Sudan in 1983 was \$172 million, while \$200 million had been allocated for 1984 and next year's outlay might be the same.

About 50 per cent of the funds went towards a food aid programme to help Sudan buy wheat and wheat flour.

The government uses some of the aid to settle part of its foreign debt, which bankers estimate has topped \$8 billion.

The U.S. official, however, would give no figures.

The United States is also involved in helping Sudan militarily, but American and Sudanese officials declined to give any figures.

Last month, Sudanese Vice President Omar Al Tayeb visited Washington to seek military help and President Reagan sent retired General Vernon Walters to assess the situation and find out its real arms needs.

The U.S. is also helping to develop Sudan's air defences and it provided a radar network after a bombing raid on March 16 on Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, informed sources said.

Sudan, Egypt and the U.S. accused Libya of sending a TU-22 bomber to drop bombs which damaged the national radio building and killed five people. Libya denied involvement.

The United States, at Egypt's request, also sent two AVACS (Airborne Warning and Control System) planes to help monitor any future attacks.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
16:30 Koran
16:45 Cartoons
17:20 Children's Programme
17:45 Children's Programme
18:30 Dickens
19:20 Program Review
19:30 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:40 Arabic Series
21:00 Local Programme
22:20 News in Arabic
23:10 News in Arabic
23:10 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 Carnival
19:00 News in French (Journal)
19:20 News in French (Journal)
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: Reggie Eps. 11
21:10 Comedy: Reggie Eps. 12
22:00 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: Express Terror
Raina, Cliff De Young

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.50 KHz, SW
07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsweek
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
11:00 Morning Show
11:30 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:00 News Summary
13:05 News Bulletin
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Just A Minute
15:00 Concert Hour
15:30 News Summary
16:00 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Arabic Series
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Good Old Days
18:20 Music
19:00 Date with a Star
19:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show
21:35 News Summary
22:00 Evening Show
22:30 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours News Summary 07:30 Football Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsweek 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours News Summary 09:30 The Cambridge Bookers 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Music For A While 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Host and his Circle 12:15 Monitor 12:30 The Harvey Brinkle Story 12:40 World News 12:49 News Today 13:00 Financial News 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours News Summary 15:30 Network U.K. 15:45 The Pleasure's Yours 16:30 Discovery 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:30 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:30 Thirty-Minute Theatre: A Visit From Miss Prothero 20:45 Outlook 21:00 News Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:09 24 Hours News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show 23:15 Usher Newsletter 23:20 In the Mezzanine 23:30 Business Matters 24:00 World News 00:09 The World Today 00:30 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial News 00:45 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:09 Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour, news summaries, business report, science and medicine; sports reports; VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups; analysis, viewpoints, features 17:10 News 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Now Music USA 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS

* Paintings exhibition by Dutch artist Janine Saif at the Alia Art Gallery at 5:00 p.m.

* Paintings exhibition by Hind Sharif Nassar at the Royal Cultural Centre, at 5:00 p.m.

CONCERT

* James Wilson, Guitarist, performs at the American Centre at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday.

FILM

* "Le vol d'Icare", starts at the French Culture Centre at 7:45 p.m. on Thursday.

MUSIC

* "Amman Players" starts at the Hays Arts Centre at 8:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026/7
American Centre Tel. 44371
British Council Tel. 36147-3
French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009
German Cultural Centre Tel. 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777
Hays Arts Centre Tel. 663195
Hussein Youth City Tel. 667181
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41793
American Municipal Library Tel. 36111
University of Jordan Library Tel. 84355

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Clashed Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and closed holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Official holidays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, carvings, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century Orientalist artists. Museum, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lebanese Club: Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphian Club: Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club: Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Royal Club: Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club: Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Lweibdeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Husein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church of the Redemption: Abdali, 4559.
Armenian Catholic Church: Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church: Ashrafieh, 73261.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 71751.

PRAYER TIMES

03:54 Fajr
05:18 (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:39 Duha
15:13 Asr
18:24 Maghreb
19:24 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport (JAB) 35250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:05 Cairo (MS)
07:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
07:15 Bucharest (RJ)
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)
07:45 Oshana (RJ)
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Protocols with Algeria, Djibouti, Yemen signed

Anani returns with three bilateral trade agreements

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation, led by Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, returned to Amman Wednesday at the end of a two-week tour of three Arab states that culminated in the signing of agreements on promoting bilateral trade.

Dr. Anani said upon his return that his visits were aimed at bolstering economic and trade links between Jordan on the one hand and North Yemen, Djibouti and Algeria on the other.

While in Yemen, the minister also held talks with representatives from the private and public sectors on promoting the exchange of visits by trade, agricultural and industrial delegations.

He also took part in a conference on solidarity with North Yemen and met the ministers of industry and trade from Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan to discuss Jordan's trade relations with

these countries.

In Djibouti, Dr. Anani said he discussed ways of developing trade ties and of promoting economic co-operation.

His visits to North Yemen and Djibouti ended with the signing of agreements on economic and trade co-operation which will allow Jordan and the two countries to open trade centres in each other's capital cities in order to promote the sale of their national products, Dr. Anani said in his arrival statement.

In Algiers, Dr. Anani said he signed a draft economic agreement to promote trade between Algeria and Jordan.

The minister was accompanied on his Algerian visit by Mr. Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), the deputy commander of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's armed forces.

Both men discussed with Algerian officials the prospect of Algeria renewing its financial support for the Jordanian-Palestinian fund for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli occupation rule.

The Algerians have promised to provide assistance for that fund, the minister said.

In all three countries the minister took up the subject of marketing Jordanian cement in Arab countries and also discussed the prospect of supplying Arab states with Jordanian engineers, doctors and agricultural specialists.

Dr. Anani was accompanied on the tour by representatives of the Central Bank of Jordan, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and the private sector.

King guest on Soviet ship

AQABA (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor last Saturday spent nearly four hours on board the Russian passenger ship "Alexander Pushkin" which docked in Aqaba Friday while on a cruise in the region.

On the occasion of the royal visit, a party was given on board the ship during which Soviet folklore dances were performed.

King Hussein and Queen Noor also met the ship's crew and passengers who had come from western European countries.

After a two-day visit, the "Alexander Pushkin" left Aqaba Sunday.

Nursery visit slated

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared a programme of visits to its nurseries in the north of the country in co-operation with the Goethe Institute in Amman.

The director of the Goethe Institute and the director of range and pasture land at the Ministry of Agriculture, Chaleb Arrabi, will initiate the visits Thursday and will also organise lectures on the past, present and future of range farming and forestry in Jordan.

The nurseries were established with assistance from West Germany agencies whose specialists are employed on the projects.

These as well as local specialists who were trained in afforestation methods and the creation of pasture land will also take part in the lectures.

'Obeidat meets economists

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Tuesday received in his office president and members of the Jordanian Economists Association's board of directors.

During the meeting, the association's role and activities in the field of promoting economic awareness, in addition to some organisational matters were reviewed.

Earlier Monday, Mr. 'Obeidat received the president and members of the Jordanian Geologists Association and discussed with them issues pertaining to the association's activities.

Later Monday, Mr. 'Obeidat received the Jordanian ambassador to Iraq, Mr. Saleh Al Kabarti.

Ministry seeks to boost municipal finances

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Nabulsi said here Wednesday his ministry is intent on improving the financial position of municipalities in order to improve the quality of public services.

He was speaking during a visit to Salt Municipality where he met the mayor, Abdul Razzaq Nsour, and municipal council members to discuss the municipality's projects and problems.

Organisational issues and problems pertaining to the construction and planning of new residential and commercial districts in the city were discussed during the visit.

The minister was accompanied by Balqa Governor Mohammad Al Khatib and other local officials.

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- Pope Premier™, President™, Monsoon™, Typhoon™ Sprinklers
- Rain Spray Sprinklers

- RIS polyethylene hose
- Hydro Rain™ Valves and Controllers
- Safe-T-Lawn Sprinklers
- Pope Garden products
- Rain Jet consumer products
- Pope Water Winch Travelling irrigators
- Loc-Eze™, Ring-Loc™, Drip-Loc™ fittings
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SOS children's home officially registered

By Afifah A. Kaloti

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday was handed the official registration certificate of the SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan.

Minister of Social Development Abdul Salam Kana'an presented the certificate to Queen Noor, the honorary chairman of the association in Jordan, at a meeting held at the Council of World Affairs.

The SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan is based on an agreement signed on Feb. 13, 1983 between the Jordanian government represented by the then minister of social development, Issam Al Mufli, and SOS Kinderdorf International, represented by Mr. Wolfgang Krug von Nidda.

According to the agreement, the SOS international, which promotes SOS children's villages all over the world, will establish the SOS children's village while the government has provided the land, infrastructure and has exempted SOS from paying tariffs on goods, and equipment imported

for the use in the village.

Also exempt is the payment of income tax on donations to the SOS Association.

SOS International is an Austrian-based organisation that takes care of poor orphans by forming small community villages in various countries.

At the beginning of the meeting, which was attended by members of the founding board of the association here, Mr. Ja'afar Toukan, in his capacity as a member of the founding board and the village's engineer, briefed the audience on the village.

In January 1983, the government allocated 33 dunums of land in Terek (near Sports City) for the construction of the Village, he said. Meanwhile the architectural and the technical planning is completed and construction work will start in May 1984, he added.

The village will consist of 11 family-houses, a house for the village-director, an administration building, a house for aunts and guests and a kindergarten which will be open also to children of the outside community, he explained.

There will also be a small complex containing central services, a workshop, laundry and storage facilities, and shops to serve the vicinity and the village, as well as a plot where fruits and vegetables may be grown for the benefit of the village, he said.

The plans also provide for the future expansion of the village with space left for two or three additional family-houses and a youth-house, Mr. Toukan said.

Mr. Tarek Nabil, a member of the founding board and a lawyer, also addressed the audience.

It is one of the fundamental principles of SOS Children's Villages that children must not be displaced from their country of origin, and they must be brought up in accordance with their own religion and culture, fully integrated members of society, he said.

To achieve this purpose, the SOS Children's Village Association of Jordan was founded with complete responsibility for the management for the village which will soon be constructed to add one more home — to the existing 214 villages throughout the world, he said.

OLYMPIC'S GREECE



A WISE CHOICE

TIME TABLE		
EFF 25TH OF MARCH		
DAY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
Monday	08:30	18:10
Tuesday	08:30	18:10
Wednesday	08:30	18:10
Thursday	08:30	18:10
Friday	08:30	18:10
Saturday	08:30	18:10

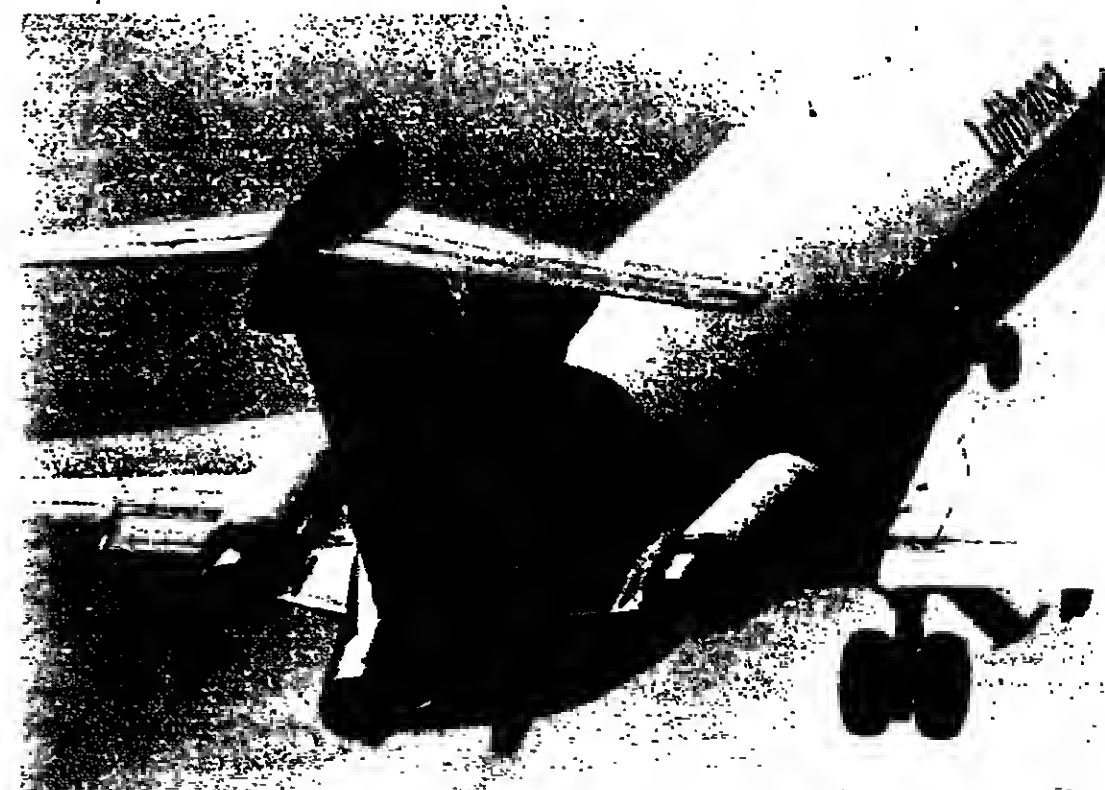
Starting from June 18, direct flights every Monday morning Amman-Rhodes, and Rhodes-Amman every Sunday.

For further information contact on G.S.A.
GRAND TRAVEL AND TOURISM

King Hussein Street,
P.O. Box 2152, Amman.
Tel: 30125, 36493, 24363, 22275.
Airport Tel: 0853984.
Telex: 21194 Grand Jo.

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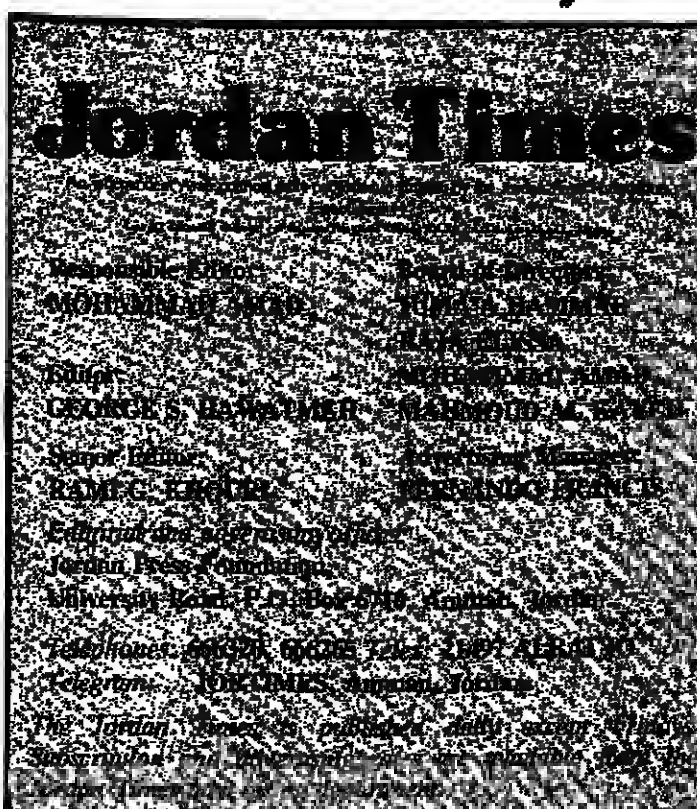
You arrive in Frankfurt just in time for afternoon business or for a connecting flight to a large choice of major cities in Germany, Europe or overseas.

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For further information and reservations contact your nearest IATA travel or cargo agent or Lufthansa: Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, Jabal Amman, Tel. 44236, 41305, 44377



The white broom missed a corner

WE ARE delighted to find ourselves in agreement with the statements of United States Secretary of State George Shultz earlier this week, condemning "state-sponsored terrorism" as a threat that must be dealt with forcefully. Mr. Shultz has got this one right. State-backed terrorism is a vile, terrible phenomenon that threatens the very structure of civilisation as we know it. It is morally outrageous and shocking, and should engage the concerted attention of the world's leaders until it is stamped out.

Of course, Mr. Shultz refers to such states as Syria, Iran, Libya and North Korea when he talks about state-backed terrorism. He does not, strangely, talk about the activities of Israel — partly, one suspects, because the activities of the state of Israel are financed and usually defended by the government of the United States, whose highest foreign policy representative Mr. Shultz is. But we suggest to Mr. Shultz that he should enhance his already sterling reputation as an international immortality by making the sweep of his white broom all-inclusive and indiscriminating.

Terrorism supported by states, and acts of terror and indiscriminate attacks committed by the armed forces of sovereign states, are only slightly different things, but both are worthy of the condemnation that Mr. Shultz assigns only to the former. We agree with his basic thesis, but we think he would have a much stronger case if he were less discriminating in both the applicability of his moral concerns and the objects of his desire for international action.

Israel's attacks against neighbouring Arab states are well documented, and well known to all, especially to those in the United States who finance the government and armed forces of Israel. Israel's actions should be subjected to the same scrutiny that Washington applies to other countries if Mr. Shultz really wishes to restore some of the credibility that even he admits America has lost in the Middle East.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Differences hamper summit

ANY OFFICIAL Arab talk about holding a summit has lost its glamour because Iraq and Egypt, the biggest and most important Arab states have both lost their influence. Egypt is completely isolated from such talk and such summits and Iraq is pre-occupied with its own war with Iran. Only Saudi Arabia is now qualified to play a leading role in this respect, but Saudi Arabia is hesitating to take a leading role to replace its old and traditional style of quiet diplomacy or stick to its behind the scenes discussions.

Many Arabs have now reached the conviction that any joint Arab action under the umbrella of the Arab League is unfeasible because so many members in the league, 22 in all, have made the emergence of problems a logical and an inevitable consequence. How can Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria, and Libya, all League members exclude the Sahara problem from their agenda and how can Iraq, Syria, Libya and Jordan for example exclude their inter-related problems from being discussed at any summit conference.

We really wonder if any Arab summit can be held under the umbrella of the Arab League and dare to ask whether the Arab World will remain a prisoner of this situation, awaiting a miracle. Will there be another country apart from Iraq and Egypt which will come forward and lead the Arabs towards a joint action?

Al Dustour: Unjustified response

WE MUST really study the reaction of Western nations to the resistance operation which was carried out in Jerusalem on Monday, especially that of the United States. The U.S. spokesman said that such an operation means that the Palestinians have now chosen the road of violence. This is a biased judgment and contains falsification and injustice directed against the Palestinians now under the Israeli occupation yoke.

The U.S. reaction to the operation was to be expected but should not affect either the Arab countries nor the Palestinians. The United States should remember its efforts to convince Israel to pull out its forces from Lebanon, and work carried out by its envoys trying to persuade Israel to stop building settlements or expand its territory at the expense of the Arabs has been fruitless. Whether genuine or not these efforts have all failed.

Had Washington honoured its commitments and respected its declared principles, the Arabs would have tried to respond to its calls for stopping their resistance activity. Had the U.S. stopped its military and economic assistance to Israel, the Arabs would have seen in this a possible transformation towards neutrality in the conflict and would have responded more favourably to its initiatives. Washington's condemnation of the Jerusalem operation can achieve nothing and can never help the establishment of peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Forced blood-path

WHATEVER ISRAEL says about the Jerusalem operation, it will never be able to conceal from the world the motives that prompted the three Palestinian youths to carry it out. The Israelis have totally disregarded the rights of the Palestinian people and continued to confiscate their territory and land; and, therefore, it was natural for the Palestinians to rise up against oppression and occupation.

The Palestinians have no alternative but to sacrifice their souls for the sake of retrieving their lost land and territory. The blood of the Palestinian martyrs who fall everyday in Palestine constitutes a strong call on the Arabs to wake up and remember their responsibility and duty towards their kinsmen under Israeli occupation.

Jerusalem and the rest of the Palestinian homeland can be restored only through blood and sacrifice, something which the Palestinian people have come to believe in. For them the future stage is a continual series of sacrifice and blood because they realise that liberation and freedom can come through no other way.

Jackson: 'I've paid my dues, I want your vote'

By David Nagy
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Chanting his message to cheering supporters from Mississippi to New York — "I've paid my dues. I want your vote." — black leader Jesse Jackson is making a deep imprint on the 1984 U.S. presidential campaign.

With balloting near the half-way mark in the Democratic Party's nomination race, the 42-year-old civil rights crusader has piled up black votes and survived a weeding-out process that trimmed an eight-man field to just himself, ex-Vice President Walter Mondale and Senator Gary Hart of Colorado.

That much has boosted his hopes of becoming a powerbroker, possibly at the presidential convention in July where his block of delegates could help break any Hart-Mondale deadlock, and surely in drives to reform the white-dominated party later.

Enjoying a laugh at the expense of those who dismissed his candidacy as Quixotic, an exultant

Jackson recently proclaimed the nomination contest "a shoot-out at the O.K. corral."

"The media tried to make this a two-man race," he said. "But we're tough and we'll hang in there. It's a three-man race and the only way that will change is if Hart or Mondale quits."

That heady boast goes further than the evidence allows.

Primary elections or party caucus ballots already held in states from Iowa to Connecticut make clear that Mr. Jackson cannot win the Democratic nomination.

By unofficial counts he has amassed only 87 delegates to the presidential convention compared with 687 for Mr. Mondale and 416 for Sen. Hart. A total of 1,967 are needed to win nomination.

He has also failed to create the "rainbow coalition" of multi-racial support he predicted.

Voting trends in Mr. Jackson's best states to date show a pattern similar to that of the Illinois primary, where he took an estimated 70 per cent of the black ballot but only about one vote in every 20 cast by whites or Hispanics.

If anyone leads a "rainbow coalition" among the Democrats, it is

old-guard liberal Mondale.

Yielding most of the blacks to Mr. Jackson and most of the young, professional-class whites to "new ideas" candidate Sen. Hart, Mr. Mondale has won such key states as Illinois and Alabama with combined backing from whites, some blacks and other minorities.

Even so, if Mr. Jackson's power base is limited to the black community, that is a power base crucial to Democratic strategy for defeating President Reagan in the Nov. 6 election.

Blacks vote about 9-1 Democratic — when they vote. Mr. Reagan's 1980 victory margin over Jimmy Carter was less than the number of voting-age blacks who stayed home in many states.

Mr. Jackson has shown he can arouse that vote like no one else.

In once-segregated Alabama and Georgia, black cast an estimated 30-40 per cent of the ballots although they are only 20 per cent of the registered voters.

In Illinois on March 20, they also turned out in droves and preferred Mr. Jackson over Mr. Mondale by margins of five to one.

But for Mr. Jackson, Mr. Mondale would have beaten Sen. Hart by huge margins instead of modest ones in all three of those states.

In the Mississippi and Virginia caucuses, Mr. Jackson actually won the most votes — the first black to win a state-wide ballot in either place in this century — but Mr. Mondale got more convention delegates because of complicated caucus rules.

As Mr. Jackson rolls on, rallying blacks to his cause, the central question is how he will use his growing political leverage. What does he want besides the presidency?

Mr. Jackson himself has said only that, while he does not plan to bolt the party and run for the presidency on his own, he will extract a price for staying in the Democratic fold.

"If I lose," he told one group, "the next step will not be to hound the nominee but to gather my supporters and negotiate a mutual relationship with the nominee."

The vice-presidential slot on a Democratic ticket is one goal that tantalises his followers.

While analysts say that seems unlikely in view of controversies including a pro-Palestinian tilt in his Middle East views and an incident in which he called Jews "hymies", political realities could cause Mr. Mondale or Sen. Hart to reconsider.

What is certain is that Mr. Jackson will demand sweeping party reforms that the white-dominated hierarchy has shunned in the past — and will do it with a voice none can now ignore.

These include fielding and financing far more black candidates for office at every level, putting more blacks in party leadership roles, ending complex voter registration rules that discourage blacks from getting on rolls in the South and eliminating "run-off primaries" that have enabled whites in some states to keep blacks from winning elections.

Mr. Jackson's major target, however, is the very primary and caucus system that has helped him demonstrate his muscle.

He argues that it is full of features that discriminate against long-shot candidates and especially against blacks.

— A rule that says a candidate must get 20 per cent of the vote in most areas to get any share of convention delegates.

— A winner-take-all provision in a few big states.

— and increasing replacement of primaries with the complicated "caucus" or party-meeting, where popular support does not translate directly into delegate strength.

Noting bitterly that he had won most votes, but not the most delegates, at Mississippi and Virginia caucuses, Mr. Jackson told supporters: "Any time the rules are such that the one that gets the votes doesn't get the delegates, something's wrong."

Party leaders brushed off his reform demands at a meeting last January. Now they will face them again as the party writes up its campaign platform and at the convention itself, where Mr. Jackson is likely to play an influential and dramatic role.

Failure to satisfy him this time could leave Democrats facing the nightmare prospect of Mr. Jackson sitting out the fight against Mr. Reagan, and taking his supporters with him.



Stroessner slightly loosens iron grip

By Francois Raitberger
Reuters

ASUNCION — Jolted by economic problems at home and isolated by changes in neighbouring countries, President Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay is beginning to relax his iron grip while still taking a tough line against opponents.

Argentina and Bolivia have returned to democracy. Uruguay is to hold elections this year. Brazil will do so early in 1985 and President Augusto Pinochet faces growing opposition in Chile.

After 30 years in power, 66-year-old Stroessner finds himself increasingly alone in the southern cone of Latin America once solidly under military rule.

Diplomats say the Paraguayan president has had to make faint concessions, concessions which are strictly limited and which he had made clear he is prepared to retract.

He has allowed politician Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, a personal friend of Argentine President Raul Alfonsín, to return home after 25 years in exile in Buenos Aires.

But he has ensured that campaigning is virtually impossible for Mr. Gonzalez Casabianca's Popular Colorado Movement (Mopoco), a splinter group of the ruling Colorado Party.

Six plainclothes policemen guard Mr. Gonzalez Casabianca's home, check the identity of visitors, shadow him on motorbikes

and take the names of everyone he meets on the streets.

Another opposition party, the Social Democrat "Feheristas", was allowed to hold its first public meeting recently.

There were unprecedented banners calling Mr. Stroessner a dictator when Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld, investigating reports denied by the government that war criminal Josef Mengele was in Paraguay, led a demonstration here last month.

"Amazingly, no-one was arrested, even after she had left," according to Carmen Lara Castro, president of the human rights commission, who says there are 100 political prisoners in Paraguay.

Corruption in high places was exposed publicly for the first time last month when Carmen Caceres de Thomas, president of the "morality commission" on Asuncion City Council, was sacked after accusations that she demanded bribes to let brothels operate.

Newspapers and the state-run television reported the sacking. "But we know rules of the game," said a journalist on Paraguay's largest daily, the independent ABC Color. "We would not criticise the military."

The authorities nevertheless closed the paper down indefinitely and held its publisher, Aldo Zuccollo, for two weeks without charges.

Diplomats see grumblings over economic problems as potentially more serious for Mr. Stroessner than the first fragile steps of a political opposition which finds little echo among a population subdued by 30 years of authoritarian rule.

The joint construction with Brazil of the giant Itaipu hydroelectric dam from 1975 to 1982 gave Paraguay a short-lived boom. Over \$1 billion flowed into the country, dwarfing the rest of the agriculture-based economy and giving Paraguay the fastest-expanding economy in Latin America.

Asuncion's millionaires' row was dubbed "vanity street" as the wealthy and powerful rivalled each other in ostentatious luxury. Massive mansions sprang up on cheap land in poor suburbs next to waste grounds where children play football.

Asuncion grew lines of skyscrapers, but many are unfinished because money ran out or empty because rents are too high.

Delay in building the Yacyreta dam with Argentina, a project getting under way only now, has thwarted government plans for another construction-led boom.

Paraguay's gross national product (GNP) grew by 8.5 per cent in 1981 but contracted by five per cent in 1982. The United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America estimates that it fell by five per cent again last year, though foreign economists here believe the fall may have been as much as 10 per cent.

Unemployment in this country of three million rose to 13 per cent last year, from nine per cent in 1982. Inflation trebled to 17 per cent, well ahead of wage rises.

Exports, mainly soya and cotton hit by floods, fell 23 per cent to give a \$228-million trade deficit. Foreign reserves fell to \$585 million, their lowest since 1979.

The crisis has cut the incomes of the middle class, but possibly more serious for the president is its effect elsewhere.

Opponents say Mr. Stroessner has long bought the loyalty of senior officers by distributing business interests and control over profitable sectors of smuggling — the "unregistered" half of the Paraguayan economy.

"Corruption is the pillar of the regime," Mr. Gonzalez Casabianca told Reuters. "But it is now becoming its Achilles heel as the cake to share out grows smaller."

Diplomats report discontent among the younger military, mainly colonels, prevented from attaining promotion and the richest privileges by aging generals clinging to their benefits.

No-one ventures to speculate whether a struggle for the succession is underway behind the scenes. The president often appears in public, and even those who mention rumours on his health appear incredulous.

Nazi re-union brings old nightmares to life

By Ralph Boulton
Reuters

OBERAULA, West Germany — A reunion of the former "Death's Head" SS tank division, one of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler's most loyal fighting units, reopened old wounds in the sleepy village of Oberaula last weekend.

Old men in the blue-and-white striped uniform of the former Buchenwald concentration camp were among some 3,000 people who marched to the village's market square on Saturday to protest against a meeting of 350 former "Death's Head" soldiers.

Police chased away a small group of anarchists who tried to break into the old soldiers' meeting hall while some 20 youths, officially identified as neo-Nazis, lingered in the background.

The day ended without violence but left a lasting mark on the 1,900 villagers — it was the first demonstration in their community's 1,000-year history.

Death's Head was formed in 1939 by the former commandant of Dachau concentration camp, Theodor Eicke, and quickly earned an awesome reputation in some of World War II's fiercest battles.

Old soldiers, some with the scars of combat, spoke with obvious affection of "Papa" Eicke when they gathered in the village's central assembly hall.

"He was a hard man and it was tough serving under him. But his severity in fact saved many lives and on the whole I would say he was a positive person," former Commander Kurt Meyer told journalists.

But reminiscences in the quiet bars here were disturbed by a nationwide protest that began when word of the meeting was made public last month. The criticism deeply affected village businessmen.

Mayor Hans-Joachim Schmeckel, dismayed over a flood of protests from abroad and a boycott of Oberaula by several Dutch tourists, said he did not want to see the group in the village again.

The Dutch Parliament, sensitive to war crimes committed by Death's Head on the Western front, also condemned the meeting.

An Oberaula hotelier told Reuters: "Honestly, if we had known this was going to happen, we would never have allowed them to come. But they asked us, and this is a quiet time for business, so we said yes."

"Suddenly people are trying to suggest Oberaula is the brownest (most Nazi) village in Germany."

West German government officials stress that while the SS itself was declared a criminal organisation by the victorious allies in 1945, they can do nothing to stop old men's meetings as long as they do not propagate Nazi ideas.

The former Death's Head soldiers had kept their last two Oberaula meetings secret by operating as the "Lake Ilmen Holidaymakers Club" — an ironic reference to one of the divisions' bloodiest battles near Leningrad in 1942.

They see the Ilmen battle, which enabled some 100,000 German soldiers to break out of encirclement, as proof of the qualities that set them apart from the regular army.

The regular army soldiers were always glad to see the SS arrive on the scene but they were also happy to see them leave. They (the SS) fought hard with no regard for casualties and didn't take too many prisoners," one ex-army officer commented.

The former SS soldiers denied their unit had acted as jailers for the concentration camps.

Wolfram Schneider, who lost his left arm on the Eastern front campaign against the Soviet Union, told reporters: "I stood guard on the perimeter of a concentration camp in the early years. But I never saw a camp from the inside... never."

However, many volunteers to the division served at concentration camps. After the war others faced charges of participating in civilian massacres in Eastern Europe.

Former Commander Kurt Meyer commented: "We regret that excesses did take place. I don't know why they happened."

The former SS soldiers rejected trade union accusations that they encouraged neo-Nazi groups by their meetings and insisted their only aim was to swap reminiscences and seek out long-lost colleagues.

But in the post-war West German atmosphere of guilt over Nazi war crimes, they find themselves isolated.

The SS in the 1930s grew from being Hitler's bodyguard into a vast network supporting the Nazi state and its war effort.

June is the 50th anniversary of the "night of the long knives" when Hitler purged the rival Nazi brown-shirts to clear the way for the SS.

One leading figure in that operation was "Papa" Eicke.

LETTERS

Official Indian denial

To the Editor:

Please refer to the news item carried in your esteemed daily on March 28, 1984, the remarks attributed to India's Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra in the Associated Press story on Sino-Pakistani relations in the nuclear field have been denied by the official spokesman of the government of India. Following is the statement made by the Indian official spokesman on March 27, 1984:

"This is a total distortion of a purely social conversation with several foreign journalists in the context of speculation based on Pakistani scientist Abdul Qadir's recent interview and Dr. Leventhal's testimony to the U.S. Congress concerning possible Sino-Pakistani nuclear co-operation. Foreign Secretary categorically denies the remarks attributed to him."

I would, therefore, request you to present the correct picture to your readers by publishing the statement made by our official spokesman.

Ashtok Kumar
First Secretary
The Embassy of India,
Amman

Socio-economic dynamics are behind Islam's militancy

By Robert Olson

THE "re-politicalisation" of Islam was and is primarily due to the combination of developments which enabled the Middle East to be dominated by pro-Western groups — Europe, Israel and the United States — during the 1970s. A major factor was the failure of the modernisation schemes proposed for pro-Western regimes in the region, the most notable case being Iran. When capital intensive industrial development programmes, paid for by oil revenues, were implemented in the Middle East "societies in crisis" were created. A "society in crisis" is characterised by three fundamental phenomena which paved the way for the re-politicalisation of Islam: first, rapid urbanisation and an economic crisis involving changes in position of classes, especially that of the lower classes, the petit-bourgeoisie of the social scientists; in its most aggressive stages during 1981-82 Iran's revolution was of the lower classes. Second, loss of faith in Western ideologies and a profound sense of cultural alienation among the middle classes, creating a "dual personality". Third, "societies in crisis" reflect the problems of political legitimacy and of ineffective and corrupt leadership.

The resurgence of Muslim political activism in the Middle East countries, but elsewhere as well, resulted in part from the policies of those countries. For example,

the suppression of most leftist groups and efforts by Arab governments to use Islamic groups beholden to the government against their political opponents gave an official blessing to certain types of Islamic political behaviour. Anwar Sadat of Egypt encouraged Muslim activists in order to reduce political groups and parties that were still loyal to his predecessor, Gamal Abdul Nasser. Saudi Arabia, always seeking to legitimise the Saudi monarchy, also supplied liberal funds to Islamic groups throughout the Middle East and even further afield. To create irritants to the West Muammar Qaddafi also supported Islamic groups in Sub-Saharan countries and as far away as the Philippines. The governments of Egypt and Saudi Arabia knew not what they helped to unleash, because after the Iranian revolution in 1979 most militant Islamic groups were no longer content to serve as a diversionary opposition to governmental opponents.

Besides government-supported Islamic groups, there were other Muslim movements which gained ground in the 1970s. This growth of Muslim political activism can be attributed to several factors, among them the massive influx of rural peasants to urban areas, and the accompanying sense of anomie and alienation, which reached a crisis in the 1970s. All the migrants could not be absorbed into even the booming construction trade of the oil

producing countries. In the 1950s perhaps 20 to 25 per cent of the population of the Middle East was urban; in 1980 it was 55-60 per cent, much of it in huge metropolitan centres such as Cairo (12m), Tehran (7m), Beirut (2m) and Damascus (2.3m). Even more ominously, 50 per cent of the population of the entire Middle East is under 16 years of age. The rural migrants saw all the vices of big cities: gambling, drinking, prostitution and drug abuse were everywhere evident. The only people who seemed to be concerned about the licentiousness of urban life were the clergy, governmental and bureaucratic elites and the middle class seemed to condone such immoral behaviour as a necessary social cost of "modernisations."

Cultural alienation

The increasing sense of cultural alienation among the young, now unemployed from the "Western" culture of the big cities, caused them to turn to Islam for solace and identity. The youth of the Middle East, the driving force of Islamic activism, began to realise by 1967 that the two major expressions of Arab nationalism — Nasserism in Egypt and Ba'athism in Syria and Iraq — were incapable of confronting their three betes noires — Zionism, imperialism and Communism. It was difficult for Arab governments to characterise Islamic militants as

agents of the Soviet Union, the U.S. or Zionism.

It became clear to the militant Muslims that the dependency of the Arab regimes on the West made a resolution of the Palestinian question impossible. Indeed, the Camp David accord meant that two million Palestinians, including the 750,000 in Israel proper, were kept under Israeli control. They saw moreover that under the Likud government of Menachem Begin Jewish religious militancy was effective in establishing Israeli hegemony over the West Bank and Gaza. The idea was, "If the Jews can do it, why can't we?" The Arab governments were increasingly vulnerable to the great swelling of religious feeling, cultural alienation, political frustration and psychological torment and were unable to cope with it. Egypt's peace treaty with Israel had weakened its influence in Arab politics; Saudi Arabia was politically vulnerable and militarily weak and could not take a leadership role, in spite of U.S. efforts to push it to the fore of Arab politics. By 1980 Iraq was at war with Iran, now a militantly Muslim country, and Syria and Libya were openly collaborating with Iran. The so-called Arab moderates, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan, were dependent on the U.S. After 1980 Iraq was increasingly dependent on France, to whom it owed \$7 billion. But the straw that broke the

camel's back was the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982. Ariel Sharon, the mastermind of the Lebanese invasion, openly declared that Israel sought a condominium of power with the Maronites in Lebanon. Israel's power, said Sharon, "would radiate as far as Pakistan and even into Africa".

The paradox of the ascendancy of the West and the re-politicalisation of Islam that characterised the decade of 1973-1983 has significant implications for 1984. First, there are indications that some progress will be made in 1984 to resolve some of the points of tension in the Middle East, perhaps Lebanon and the Iraq-Iran war. The Palestinian question will persist and some one will have to come up with a more comprehensive peace plan than that offered by President Reagan on Sep. 1982. If a political remedy can be implemented in Lebanon, there might be some movement on the Palestinian question. Indications that this could take place are: the retrenchment of Israel after its over-extension in Lebanon; the realisation by Syria that it cannot confront the U.S. militarily, if the U.S. were to choose that option; the realisation by the U.S. that an escalated military option would not result in equivalent political gain for it in the Middle East, and lastly the U.S. does not want to push Syria into opting for closer Soviet military co-operation and dependency, and

may be induced to negotiate with Syria rather than attempt to impose conditions on it. This means that the United States could rely less on Israel to carry out its policies in Lebanon.

Without a reduction of tensions in Lebanon, which means bringing Syria into a negotiating position, Lebanon will remain a potential place of war. Without political movement in Lebanon there can be no news towards reducing the Syrian and Israeli military presence there. During 1984 both countries' forces will undoubtedly remain in Lebanon under a tacit "spheres of influence" agreement, much like the one that prevailed prior to the Israeli invasion of 1982.

Syria signalled in the release of Goodman, the U.S. navy pilot, that it wanted to negotiate with the U.S. Much more important, it indicated as well that Syria wants to maintain the ascendant Western forces in power in the Middle East. Syria's willingness to negotiate is a rebuttal to those forces in the Middle East which advocate the further re-politicalisation of Islam. But unless the opportunities to reduce tension in the Middle East are grasped and gathered momentum, there will be more challenges from the Muslim militants and Islamic activists.

Robert Olson is associate professor of Middle Eastern history at the University of Kentucky. He contributed this article to the Middle East International, London.

Randa Habib's Corner

The scratching squad

I HAVE seen him on a street corner, not very well tall wearing jeans and a clean shirt; he was very close to a new car he was moving his hand to and fro.

Very carefully I go near him and catch him in action. He is holding a sharp nail and is scratching the door of the parked car. I catch him by the shoulder and ask him what he is supposed to be doing.

— Nothing, he replies very calmly.

— Nothing, well look at this door that you have scratched.

— Well, he says lightly, I am amusing myself.

I learnt from him that he was 11, comes from a rich family and that his father has a Japanese car "not a big car like this, not as nice".

This is why he was revolted and felt like being destructive. I was stunned: This boy also told me that they were "a bunch of friends to act in this way". As soon as a brand new car is parked and its owner has left, we immediately rush to mark it.

Sometimes we use a kitchen knife but a nail is more practical, easier to hide and as effective.

Yes, it is a science of its own. How do they do it? When they are together, they pretend they are talking and one of them is leaning on the car while another carefully, covered by the others, does it. It is as simple as that. No one of us can escape from it. How many times did you scream when you saw your car scratched from one end to the other?

You know now that those who do it simply do it to entertain themselves. It is high time that the parents find new areas of amusement for their kids.

Can improved woodstoves save trees?

By Sumi Krishna Chauhan

LONDON — Can better woodstoves save wood? If they can, will this save tropical forests? To solve the problem of deforestation, we should have 100 million stoves within 20 years", wrote a stove expert in 1982. But today, a growing number of researchers are casting doubt on such claims.

The assumptions on which so many stove programmes have been based are a myth, according to Dr. Sam Baldwin, a U.S. physicist who has been working on improved stoves in Upper Volta. But the assumptions look convincing. Nearly two billion people — half the world's population — cook with wood, most of them over open fires. In laboratory tests, a "modern", well-designed stove can cook the same meal as an open fire using half the wood. Getting better stoves to many of these two billion would seem a way to help solve the developing world's "fuelwood crisis" and slow the rapid rate of tropical deforestation.

The first efforts in the 1950s to get "improved" stoves into village huts in India, Indonesia and

Ghana promised not only to save wood but to free women from smoke, soot and burnt children. They had little impact, but they set the stage for the dozens of programmes now under way in India, Indonesia, Guatemala, Senegal, Upper Volta, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Niger and other countries.

Governments, aid agencies and volunteer organisations are spending a lot of time and money to get stoves into huts.

But village huts are not scientific laboratories. The sort of simple stoves made of clay which villagers can afford rarely fall apart. Cooks leave the fire door open to get wood in or to provide light — and wood savings vanish. Of the nine stove models being pushed by agencies in Upper Volta, six were found to use as much or more wood than the open fire, Dr. Baldwin said.

U.S. energy economist David French argues that for these and other reasons — for instance, people do not use stoves for beer brewing and other big chores, and it is often too cold to use a stove — a "successful" stove programme would only save 1.5 per cent of the wood used yearly in Malawi, where he works.

According to environmental scientist Timothy White, "We still do not know how much wood is saved by using improved woodstoves". Few stove programmes have made reliable studies to see if their stoves actually saved wood. The few follow-up studies made show that some stoves do save wood, many do not.

The improved stove programmes have also not had any marked impact on the rate of three-felling. This may be because in most developing countries, people are clearing forests to grow crops on the land under the trees, not to use the trees for fuel wood.

New stoves face stiff competition from the traditional open fire. Although dangerous and messy, it can be built anywhere; is easy to regulate; burns a wide range of fuel from dung to logs to leaves; provides light, heat, and a social focus; and gives off smoke which keeps insects away from people and from corn stored in the rafters. Most important, the open fire is free.

Many countries have their own traditional stoves which have evolved to suit local conditions. These range from the hole-in-the-ground "chula" of Ban-

gladesh to the more complex Korean and Chinese stoves which are integral parts of a house's structure. Most of these traditional stoves are cheap, easily repaired and made of local materials.

However, better stoves do make dwellings safer and healthier for women and their families, and this may be a stronger reason for improvements than the possibility of saving fuel.

There are other possible social benefits. A field worker in the "Ban ak Suut" (clay and sand) stove programme in Senegal says: "Even if Ban ak Suut stoves have somewhat of a short life-expectancy, all the preliminary work, organisation and participation that leads to the actual construction is an accomplishment worth noting in terms of community development. Women can realise a goal in a new domain."

Many specialists agree that up to now, stove programmes saved little wood and few trees. Optimists believe that some of the new stoves now being developed — especially the metal bucket stoves lined with a ceramic firebox — will be more successful. These bucket stoves may save charcoal in Third World cities. — Earthscan feature.



Southern Niger: A woman cooks on a simple "stove" made of tin — a Mark Edwards photo/Earthscan

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Formula One teams voice concern over fuel limits

KYALAMI, South Africa (R)—Leading motor racing teams Wednesday voiced concern over this season's new fuel limits as they began unofficial practice for Saturday's South African Grand Prix, the second race of the season.

Each car is limited to 220 litres for the 312 km (194 mile) race, leaving little margin for error with all refuelling stops banned.

That ruling cost Renault driver Patrick Tambay dear in the opening race of the season in Brazil last month. A small crack in the fuel tank leaked out precious liquid and he was left stranded just a few kilometres (miles) from the finish.

The new ruling puts extra pressure on the driver. Frenchman Tambay said, "I knew I was running low and I had to do mental

fuel/mileage calculations while I was racing."

One racing official summed up the attitude of most teams. "It will be a matter of tactics and strategy as much as driving skill," he said.

The official said the new ruling was regarded by many drivers as a gimmick to add extra tension to an already dangerous sport.

Race authorities introduced the ruling to counter increased hazards caused by cars pulling into the pits for refuelling. Now they are permitted to make pit stops only for mechanical problems and tyre

changes.

The South African Grand Prix itself was in jeopardy until a month ago, partly because of the narrow pit lane. Racing authorities finally gave permission for the race to be held but only with a promise that the lane would be widened next year.

Another danger spot which threatened cancellation, a too short run-off area, has already been rectified. Niki Lauda, former world champion and winner of 19 Grands Prix, said he was glad to see that the area at the end of the main straight had been extended as the world authorities had ordered.

"Cars are coming down there at over 300 kph (178 mph) and if their brakes fail, they would be straight into the stand," he said. Lauda, driving the new McLaren, was well up in the field in Rio before mechanical troubles forced him out of the race, and is bound to be one of the top contenders on Saturday.

Cash defeats Solomon

HOUSTON (R)—Australian star Pat Cash brushed aside a string of mistakes to beat veteran American Harold Solomon 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 Wednesday in the first round of the \$250,000 River Oaks international tennis tournament.

Cash, 18, used his speed and a strong forehand to outrun the 31-year-old American—but he made a total of 82 errors before winning the 174-minute match.

"I was surprised how well he hit his forehand," said Solomon. "He was so quick that it was difficult for me to put the ball away."

"He negated my game, which is to move the guy around, and I wasn't able to get as much on the offence as I would have liked. I couldn't go out and attack."

Cash said that he was still learning to play on a clay surface. "For me, this match was just what the doctor ordered because I hit a million balls," he said.

In another first round match, Vijay Amritraj of India beat American Eric Korita 6-4, 6-4. American Steve Denton beat Balazs Taroczy of Hungary 6-3, 6-7, 7-6. American Mac Dickson beat compatriot Mike Leach 6-4, 6-7, 6-4.

Top seed Jimmy Arias faces fellow American Eddie Dibbs, second seed Tim Mayotte of the U.S. plays compatriot Aaron Krickstein, third seed Jose Higueras of Spain meets American Sammy Giammalva, and fourth seed Bill Scanlon of the U.S. plays Paul McNamee of Australia.

Switzerland to contest '87 America's Cup

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R)—Land-locked Switzerland hopes to enter the challenge series for the 1987 America's Cup off Perth, Western Australia, with a yacht named Helvetia. It was announced here Wednesday.

Geneva and Zurich yachting clubs have formed a Swiss America's Cup Association which will organise the project with a budget of over five million Swiss francs (\$2.3 million).

The Swiss announcement comes three weeks after a group of Chicago yachtsmen, who do their sailing 800 miles from the nearest seacoast on the Great Lakes, said they wanted to mount a challenge for the cup.

The Chicago syndicate face the difficult task of convincing the Royal Perth Yacht Club—home of the cup after Australia 11's historic victory off Newport, Rhode Island, last year that the Great Lakes are an "arm of the sea." The rules of the contest specify that cup competitors must hold their regattas at sea or on an extension of the sea.

Pironi makes 'comeback'

BONN (R)—French Formula One driver Didier Pironi, who has not raced since receiving severe leg injuries in a crash at Hockenheim almost two years ago, is to take part in a saloon car race at the Nuerburgring next month.

Pironi, who fractured both legs and an arm in a 240-kph (150-mph) crash during practice for the 1982 West German Grand Prix, has entered a Sport-Mercedes 190 race, in which he competes with 11 Formula One world champions.

The race is part of a four-hour sport parade on May 12 to mark the reopening of the once notorious Nuerburgring circuit.

Pironi, 32, who has had nine operations since his crash, still does not have the full use of his legs though his entry is bound to increase speculation that he may attempt a full racing comeback at some stage.

The driver led the 1982 World Championship at the time of his accident in which he collided with fellow-countryman Alain Prost in pouring rain.

Among those entered for the saloon car race are current world champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil and Austrian Niki Lauda, who was badly burnt in a 1976 crash at the Nuerburgring, prompting drivers to boycott the track.

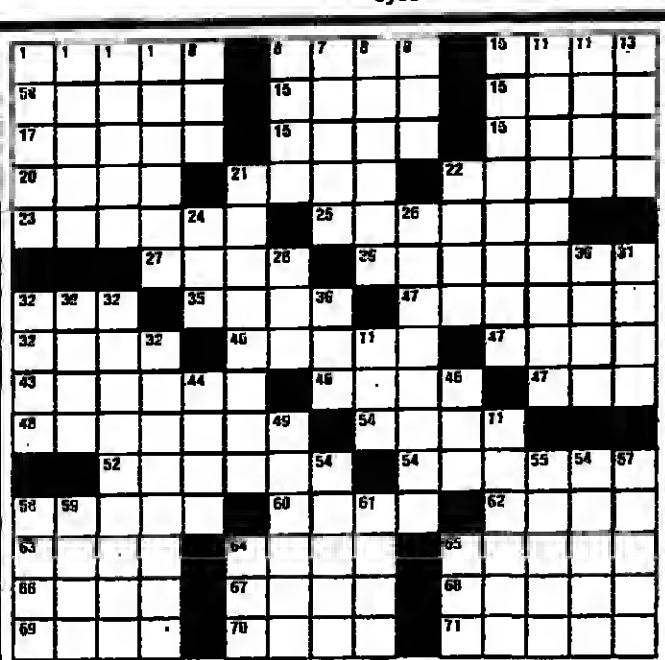
The circuit has now been shortened and Formula One racing returns in October with the European Grand Prix.

THE Daily Crossword by William Cassin

ACROSS	29 Henry or Low	58 Revelations of Allah	12 Knob of a shield
1 People of Cardiff	32 Sesame plant	60 Nourish	13 Costly
6 Buss	35 Bore of film	62 "In apprehension how like—I"	21 Playing for "the Fourth"
10 Tater	37 Transferred	63 Actor Richard	22 Pyramid
14 Let up	38 Cheese	64 Grass bunch	24 Shoshonean
15 Territory	40 Type of light	65 Great violin maker	26 Tormented
17 Docile	42 — packing	66 Lacerate	28 Nothing
18 Cattle breed	43 Naysaying	67 Portico	30 Coin
19 Competed	45 Brother of Seth	68 Fr. impressionist	31 Vortex
20 Therefore	47 Foul place	69 Profits	32 Williams and Knight
21 Impudent talk	48 Supplier to equestrians	70 Shuck	33 Notion
22 Abbey men	50 Two-masted ship	71 Over-confident	34 Government donation
23 Increase	52 Shone brightly		36 Fed. org.
25 Marks of behavior	54 Wind about		39 Part of Eng.
27 Freiberg or Getz			41 Decline

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

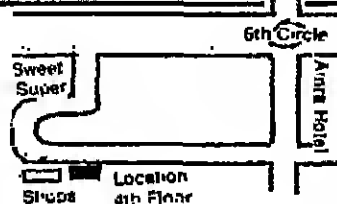
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W. German jobless total falls

NUREMBERG, West Germany (R) — The number of people out of work in West Germany fell by 143,000 to 2.39 million in March but the figures gave no sign of any real improvement this year, the Federal Labour Office said Tuesday.

The March total, representing 9.6 per cent of the work force, showed the biggest fall in 12 months.

Some 2.54 million people were registered unemployed in February.

But the underlying trend, reflecting adjustments for seasonal factors, rose for the first time since last November to 2.24 million in March against 2.20 million the previous month.

New Labour office president Mr. Heinrich Franke told a news conference that the fall in the absolute total was entirely due to the time of the year, in particular the resumption of outdoor work after the winter.

Mr. Franke forecast that unemployment would average about 2.2 million this year, little changed from 1983.

He said the pace of economic recovery in West Germany, Europe's most powerful economy, had slowed somewhat.

Brandt deplores U.S. aid cut

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — Former West German Chancellor Mr. Willy Brandt said Wednesday that the U.S. cut in funds for the International Development Association (IDA) was a scandal and urged Europe not to follow suit.

The United States has slashed by one quarter its contribution to the funds of the IDA, an arm of the World Bank which provides loans for developing countries at favourable interest rates.

Mr. Brandt, who is chairman of the Brandt Commission on economic relations between the industrialised and developing worlds, told a regional forum of the commission that Europe should not use the irresponsibility of others as an excuse for doing little itself.

"For example, we do not need to take part in the latest scandal in international cooperation... whereby in the case of providing new means for the IDA the Washington government has made sure that it is the IDA's disposable funds for the next three years will in real terms, taking into account inflation, be considerably lower than in the past," he said.

Seoul plans shipping mergers

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's 53 shipping firms may merge into 16 groups under a government plan aimed at improving the international competitiveness of the debt-ridden industry, government officials said Wednesday.

"The government had to take some steps to streamline the problem-ridden industry as fierce competition among Korean companies in the dwindling market sometimes caused bids at rates below reasonable prices," said a senior official of the Korea Maritime and Port Administration.

Hit hard by the continuing world-wide shipping recession, Korean shipping firms reported a combined loss of about 105 billion won (\$132 million) last year, against 102.4 billion won (\$129 million) in 1982.

The expectations for 1984 are no brighter, said officials of the Korea Shipowners Association.

Though the government said joining the merger scheme was not compulsory, it offered incentives to participating firms, making refusal difficult.

The incentives include tax benefits, five-year moratoriums on the payments of interest on foreign loans used for purchasing vessels and priority for carrying Korean cargoes.

Indian firms use minor ports

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian shipping companies have switched to minor ports unaffected by a national dock workers strike in a bid to move cargo held up by the 20-day-old dispute.

The strike for higher pay by 300,000 dockers has closed India's ten main ports, stranded more than 200 ships and crippled its foreign trade.

Ships have started sailing to minor ports like Pondicherry and Calcutta in southern India, a spokesman for the transport and shipping ministry told Reuters Wednesday.

The government was not concerned about a possible threat to boycott Indian ships and aircraft by the Budapest-based Trade Union International of Transport Workers which claims to cover 18 million workers in 71 countries, he added.

Mr. Anthony Pillai, general secretary of the powerful All India Port and Dockworkers Federation, sent a telegram to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Wednesday asking for her intervention in the strike, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

U.S. oil takeovers fuel big borrowings

PARIS (R) — Massive fund raising by U.S. business to finance oil takeovers sent borrowing by industrialised nations on international markets soaring last month, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Tuesday.

In its monthly report on international borrowing, the OECD said U.S. corporate credit lines arranged in March accounted for \$34 billion of the \$44 billion raised during the month.

In February total funds raised were \$10.6 billion.

In recent months, U.S. oil companies such as Shell, Texaco and Esso have made takeover bids worth more than \$25 billion, although not all have been completed.

The OECD, which aims to promote economic growth, said total funds raised in March, excluding the credit facilities, were \$13.5 billion, up \$1.9 billion from February but some \$4.2 billion less than borrowings for March 1983.

OECD member countries were heavy borrowers, the U.S. raising \$1.9 billion, Japan \$1.7 billion, Spain \$900 million and France and Italy \$800 million each.

Oil-exporting countries, who borrowed nothing February, borrowed \$928 million in March, largely on a loan to Indonesia.

Total borrowings by non-oil exporting developing countries rose sharply to \$885.5 million in March from \$370 million in February with Asian borrowers accounting for all March funds.

Paris outlines plan to aid immigrants return home

PARIS (R) — The French government, in an apparent attempt to cut rising unemployment, Wednesday approved in principle a scheme to help immigrants return to their native countries.

An official statement giving the broad outlines of the plan was issued following a weekly cabinet meeting.

It said the ministers had agreed that state aid, in conjunction with payments by employers, be offered to immigrant workers wishing to leave France definitively.

It gave no details, but informed sources said immigrants could qualify for combined payments of between 70,000 and 110,000 francs (\$9,000 and \$14,000).

An estimated 3.6 million immigrants, more than a third of them from former French colonies in Northern Africa, are currently in France.

The cabinet statement said France had proposed bilateral agreements with several countries to facilitate the repatriation of their citizens.

Ms. Georgina Dufoux, secretary of state in charge of immigrant workers, said last February that she was negotiating such accords with Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal and Mali.

The agreements involved financing the workers' return, setting up professional training schemes in their countries of origin and regularising customs procedures.

Officials said the scheme was expected to form the basis of a draft law which could be submitted to parliament later this year.

The government set a precedent in January when it offered foreign workers at the Peugeot car firm's strike-torn Talbot plant near Paris an air ticket home and 40,000 francs (\$5,000) each.

Ms. Dufoux said later there had been "some response" to the offer.

Saudi company raises share offering by 1 m

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) has decided to increase the size of its recent share offering following a three-fold oversubscription, the Saudi minister of industry and electrical power said Tuesday.

Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zamel said the number of shares issued would be three million instead of the two million originally planned.

The three million shares, representing 30 per cent of the company's capital, will raise a total of 3.54 billion riyals (\$1 billion) for the company, although shareholders were only asked to subscribe 2.04 billion riyals (\$580 million) initially.

Mr. Zamel said the extra shares would help broaden SABIC's investor base to as many shareholders as possible.

Some 1.8 million of the shares were initially offered in Saudi Arabia but the 200,000 shares offered to citizens of other Gulf states met a poor reception.

Mr. Zamel said some 1.6 billion riyals would be returned to investors who failed to get shares within two weeks.

The company, which will eventually sell to the public 75 per cent of its shares, was set up in 1976 to develop industries based on the country's oil and gas wealth.

Meanwhile an initial public offering opened Monday of shares in Saudi Arabia's 57th public corporation, the Qassim Agricultural Company.

The company said 3.23 million shares are being offered at 100 riyals (\$28.41) each until May 1.

Bankers say Argentina rescue pact was \$610m

BUENOS AIRES (R) — An international rescue package to help Argentina pay 1983 interest arrears on its foreign debt totalled \$610 million, not \$500 million as announced officially, banking sources said Tuesday.

The United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Colombia agreed on Friday to the package to prevent Argentina defaulting on interest payments by failing to meet a Saturday deadline.

The sources said Tuesday that Argentina's 11-bank steering committee lent the country \$160 million guaranteed by the U.S. treasury, not \$100 million as announced officially.

Argentina contributed \$150 million from its own reserves and not \$100 million, they said.

The other contributors to the package were Mexico and Venezuela, with \$100 million of short term credit each, and Brazil and Colombia with \$50 million each.

This enabled Argentina to repay \$610 million of interest arrears and clear payments up to Jan. 8, the sources said. Argentina has foreign debts of \$43.6 billion.

Banking sources said interest on loans arranged through U.S. branches of the state-owned Banco De La Nacion Argentina and Banco De La Provincia De Buenos Aires had been excluded from the \$500 million package.

This accounted for the difference between the \$500 million raised and Argentina's total interest arrears of over \$600 million, they said.

All foreign bankers consulted by Reuters agreed that the 1983 interest arrears totalled over \$600 million and that all payment requests lodged with the central bank had been paid over the weekend.

The sources said the steering committee loan carried an interest rate of 14 per cent above LIBOR — the London Inter Bank Offered Rate at which banks lend money to each other.

It will be repaid when Argentina's 320 creditor banks disburse \$500 million of medium-term credit within a few weeks, but in no case later than June 30, they said.

The \$500 million will be disbursed once Mr. Jacques De Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), recommends acceptance of Argentina's economic adjustment programme to the IMF board in late April or early May.

Argentina is expected to present a letter of intent to the fund setting out this programme by mid-April, when Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun and Central Bank President Enrique Garcia Vasquez are due to visit Washington, the sources said.

Economy ministry sources said Mr. Grinspun and Mr. Garcia Vasquez would leave for the United States on Friday to present the programme to the IMF.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices drifted in dull trading ahead of the fiscal year-end, dealers said. Fears of a possible rise in U.S. interest rates dampened sentiment and at 1500 Wednesday the FT-30 index showed a fall of 1.4 to 857.8.

B.P. rose 10p to 485 in response to brokers' recommendations. Other oils were mixed but with a firmer bias.

Index linked government bonds firmed up to one point on inflation fears. Dealers said the government broker supplied the 2½ per cent 2020 stock at the previous closing price of 89 per cent.

Conventional bonds were little changed on balance. North Americans were mixed and gold shares firmed.

Composite insurances were active but easier on balance after full year figures from Guardian Royal which was down 3p to 590 after 611. Sun Alliance off 15p to 155½ and Phoenix 2p easier at 471.

Banks were quiet with Barclays off 7p to 517 and Midland 5p down at 384 after 382. In mixed life insurances Pearl fell 10p to 799 while Hambro was up 4p to 415.

Among the leaders Blue Circle firmed 8p to 416 still buoyed by Tuesday's late U.S. support. Bowater eased 2p to 310 and Plessey 4p to 236. Irish speculative oil issue Atlantic Resources fell 12p from its new stock split price of 60 to 48 on worries over its Waterford appraisal well, dealers said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday

One sterling	1.4288/98	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2794/97	Canadian dollars
	2.6200/10	West German marks
	2.9550/60	Dutch guilders
	2.1697/1707	Swiss francs
	53.61/64	Belgian francs
	8.0625/75	French francs
	162.50/1623.50	Italian lire
	225.15/25	Japanese yen
	7.7730/80	Swedish crowns
	7.5515/65	Norwegian crowns
	9.6350/6400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	380.50/381.00	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ALQUI

EMAHR

THARRE

ERAUSS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: AWFUL HEDGE TIMELY FEEBLE
Answer: What's a catla rustler? — A BEEF THIEF

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Agico bids to acquire Hanomag

ABU DHABI (OPECNA) — The Dubai-based Arabian General Investment Corporation (Agico) is bidding to take over Hanomag, West Germany's oldest car-making equipment company.

Agico General Manager Radwan Termanini said here the company had asked the receivers for a one-month extension to the March 31 deadline to finalise its bid in association with General Motors.

Agico, a pan-Arab company promoted by the General Union of Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, was set up in 1979 with an authorised capital of \$191 million.

Mr. Termanini said the company was in line with its strategy to mobilise Arab private savings and channel them into long-term direct investment. If successful, this will be Agico's first major acquisition.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: After an early morning upset, you will be able to handle whatever arises in a resourceful manner, especially if you do so with more than usual charm and cleverness.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't argue over money with partners, you find that later you can discuss matters between you objectively.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) An associate can give you trouble in the morning, but later you can work out a monetary matter well and forget it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that worry about some job in the morning, and later you can go after what you most want and get it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Steer clear of a demanding new acquaintance in the morning, and later you can plan a new campaign of action.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid an irate higher-up and be with the persons you like. Make sure your car is in good running order.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Forget making some drastic and costly changes, and get into your duties with vim and vigor. Don't be afraid to ask for a favor.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't carp over a debt, but put some new ideas to work that can bring you added income quickly. Learn from new contacts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Avoid a partner who is irate. Be with your mate for a delightful day and evening. Show that you are practical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Steer clear of a disturbed co-worker, and then talk over with clever friends how you want the relationships to trend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get busy at duties ahead of you. Don't spend money on pleasure. Make your home life more charming by changing your attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into some form of recreation in the outdoors that can relieve the tensions you are under. Express some talent you have.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get home affairs nicely handled, and don't go flying off on some tangent. Bring out that Piscean charm and make others happy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be a little slower than others, but upon reaching the teens, this changes, and the reasoning power gets stronger. He or she will be good at debates and sizing up situations quickly and accurately.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Being rebellious and breaking promises would get you nowhere fast, especially since later you are able to put your dreams to good use and get the support to make your dreams come true.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) If you don't run off on some tangent, you find that good things can happen. Show that you have a good head on your shoulders.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't change your mind about some investment in the morning. Take time for some social pleasure in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Forget that errand wish in the morning. Show your true devotion for your mate. This brings about greater happiness in the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't force another to do what you wish in the morning. Later you can be with good friends. The evening can be happy.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid that argument between a good friend and an attachment, and find an easier way of gaining your personal aims.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You feel like making drastic changes both at home and in business, but this would not be wise. Stick to your regular duties.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Forget that unnecessary errand, and concentrate on how to improve your regular set-up. Show associates you want to get along famously with them now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Forget financial worries and listen to what an expert has to tell you concerning ways to make greater progress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Find some way of gaining more self control, and then make the changes that you deem wise. Plan a necessary trip to solve a problem.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to turn against work ahead of you but soon change your mind and become very efficient. Use the right words.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Some private anxiety could deter you from making plans for entertainment you like if you permit. Work out affairs sensibly.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan what should be done so that you can gain that feeling of well being you desire. Don't give anyone a cause for criticism.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will view everything clearly and reasonably and will analyze all sides of any situation before coming to a decision. Teach to finish one project before going on to another. A lover of sports here.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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Sikhs threaten to hit VIPs unless student ban lifted

CHANDIGARH (Agencies) — A Sikh extremist group Wednesday threatened to kill one very important person every day until the government of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi lifts a ban on a radical Sikh students organisation.

Meanwhile, hundreds of police patrolled streets in New Delhi during a strike protesting escalating Sikh terrorism.

The Dashmesh Regiment, an obscure Sikh terrorist group, said in a letter to a newspaper in Chandigarh that "one VIP would be killed every day" until the government gives in to its demand to lift the ban.

Authorities outlawed the All-India Sikh Students Federation last month, charging that it fanned communal tensions between Hindus and Sikhs and supported separatism.

The Dashmesh Regiment has claimed responsibility for assassinating two Hindu politicians and one moderate Sikh leader in the past seven days.

In the letter to the English-language Chandigarh Tribune, the group urged Mrs. Gandhi's government to announce the withdrawal of the ban Wednesday. It also demanded that the government postpone all university examinations until the ban is lifted.

Meanwhile Punjab state was under an iron grip Wednesday to thwart Sikh-Hindu violence threatening to spread to neighbouring states.

The prosperous farming state bordering Pakistan was declared a "dangerously disturbed" area Tuesday night after riots in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar killed at least 12 people, including two policemen, and injured 50.

Paramilitary forces patrolled the region, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live, with sweeping new powers to arrest anyone and enter dwellings.

But security worries switched to the neighbouring states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, as well as the Indian capital New Delhi, where rightwing Hindu political parties have called strikes for Wednesday.

The strikes were to protest against Tuesday's Amritsar riots and the killing of two Hindu politicians, including only the second member of the national parliament to be assassinated since India gained independence in 1947.

Shultz calls for defence against terrorism

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz called Tuesday for active defence by the West against state-supported terrorism, saying it was increasingly doubtful that passive measures could cope with the problem.

He called such terrorism a form of warfare and said once it was seen to work the threat would grow greater.

In a speech prepared for delivery to the trilateral commission, a private organisation devoted to North American-European-Japanese matters of common concern, Mr. Shultz declared what he called loss of coherence in U.S. foreign policy.

He blamed this on a web of congressional foreign policy restrictions hampering executive action.

He called terrorism a weapon directed against America's interests, values and allies, adding: "But it is increasingly doubtful that a purely passive strategy can even begin to cope with the problem," he said.

Last October a suicide bomber destroyed the Marine headquarters in Beirut with the loss of 241 lives. The attack was blamed on an Iranian group, sanctioned by Syria.

'Soviets find ways to counter U.S. weapons'

PALO ALTO, California (R) — The Soviet Union is so good at acquiring U.S. technology that Moscow finds ways of countering American weapons even before they are deployed, CIA Chief William Casey said Tuesday.

He told several hundred businessmen from the Silicon Valley high technology district that they were the target of a huge and well-coordinated Soviet effort to acquire technology, through legal or by illicit channels such as spying.

"The ability of the Soviet military-industrial complex to acquire and assimilate technology far exceeds any previous estimates," he said in a speech at Palo Alto hotel.

"They (the Soviet Union) have been so successful in getting technology early that we know that they develop counter-measures before we can deploy our own weapons systems," Mr. Casey added.

The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said Moscow obtained plans for the huge C-SA Galaxy aircraft even before it flew, and that sophisticated equipment in Soviet intercontinental missiles were designed by the United States.

"The radar in their AWACS (Radar aircraft) is ours. Their space shuttle is a virtual copy of our initial shuttle design. And the list goes on and on."

Soviet trucks used in the intervention in Afghanistan were equipped with \$1.5 billion worth of modern and European machinery, he said.

Mr. Casey said that during the late 1970s, the Soviet Union acquired about 40,000 samples of Western production equipment, weapons — both classified and unclassified.

U.S. Senate panel vote to weaken Pakistan aid ban

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tuesday weakened legislation trying U.S. aid to Pakistan to assurances about the country's nuclear capability.

Unlike the previous measure, adopted last week and strongly opposed by the Reagan administration, the provision approved Tuesday has administration backing and is given a good chance of becoming law, and aid to Senator Charles Percy, the committee chairman, said.

The vote was 9-8 along party lines and followed a 40-minute private briefing by senior administration officials.

Senator Alan Cranston, sponsor of the original measure, opposed Tuesday's version, saying it was tantamount to admitting Pakistan was developing a nuclear weapon.

"Plainly the administration is not in a position to certify that Pakistan is not now preparing a nuclear device. I think we all know that Pakistan is embarked upon this course," the California Democrat said.

The committee last week tentatively agreed to prohibit 1985 military aid to Pakistan unless President Reagan certified its government did not possess, was not developing and was not acquiring "covertly or overtly" technology or equipment for manufacturing or equipping a nuclear explosive device.

Mr. Reagan has proposed that Pakistan should receive \$526 million, including \$325 million in military aid.

Guinean Armed Forces appear firmly in control after coup

ABIDJAN (R) — The armed forces appeared firmly in control of Guinea Wednesday after a coup which looked set to put an end to a quarter of a century of rigid Socialist rule in the West African country.

Shortly after the coup was announced the Soviet-trained and equipped armed forces pledged to introduce genuine democracy after what they called "a ruthless and bloody dictatorship."

The coup came barely five days after the late President Ahmad Sekou Toure, the longest-serving ruler in modern Africa, was given an emotional funeral attended by a host of African and world leaders.

The newly created "National Redemption Committee", whose make-up was not revealed, said it would release all political prisoners. Some were interviewed by Conakry Radio and praised the armed forces' move.

But the fate of those who had served Mr. Sekou Toure and had survived his countless purges was not immediately clear.

Guinean exile circles and diplomats speculated they would be asked to account for thousands of opponents which human rights organisations said were murdered, jailed or sent into exile.

They were expected to include former Prime Minister Lansana Beavogui, Mr. Sekou Toure's most trusted and oldest friend. He had been expected to be designated as the new president by the Political Bureau of the Ruling Democratic Party.

The Political Bureau had been scheduled to meet Tuesday but the coup intervened.

Others could include some of Mr. Sekou Toure's relatives whom the armed forces accused of "being sullied with the blood of many innocent people" in one of several communiques broadcast Tuesday.

There was no clue as to the identity of the coup leaders. The radio said it was carried out by the armed forces as a whole, including the People's Militias which number 9,200 and were expected to put up some resistance.

While their political leanings were not immediately clear African diplomats speculated they could favour closer ties with the West.

Citizens of Cocos Islands to vote on independence

CANBERRA (R) — The 300 citizens of the Indian Ocean's Cocos Islands, ruled for more than 150 years by the family of a Scottish sea captain, vote this week on whether to become independent or part of Australia.

The decision is to be taken by the islands' 170 eligible voters on Friday under the eye of United Nations observers.

The islanders, whose forebears came as indentured workers from Malaysia and Java, have a choice of three options — independence, free association with Australia or integration into Australia.

If the islanders vote for independence, the Cocos Islands will become one of the world's smallest nations. But they seem like to favour integration instead.

Since 1827 the Cocos Islands, made up of 27 coral atolls some 2,700 kilometres northwest of the Australian city of Perth, have been under the control of the Clunies-Ross Family.

For many years, the present family head, John Clunies-Ross, paid the islanders who worked on his coconut plantation in plastic tokens which could be used to buy food he imported.

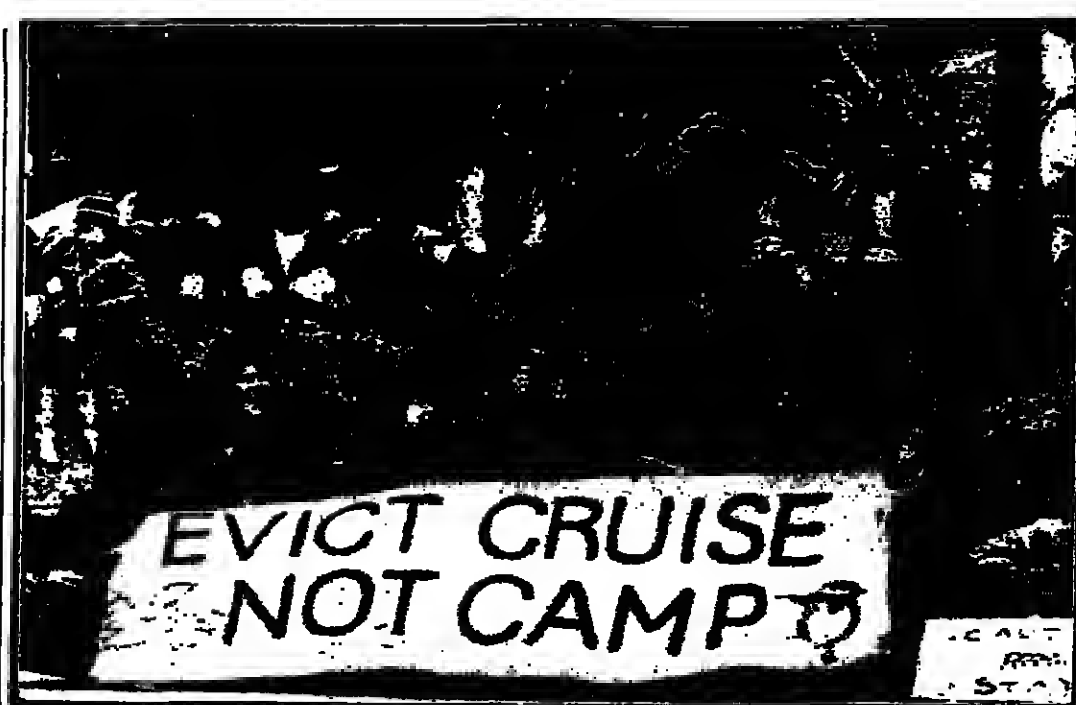
A move to change all that came in 1978 when Australia's federal government paid Clunies-Ross \$6 million for an 11-hectare (28 acre) plantation.

Last year, Clunies-Ross blocked a government attempt to acquire the remaining five hectares (12 acres).

Clunies-Ross still has nine companies registered on the Cocos, and he risks losing their tax free status if the islanders choose integration.

Integration would give the Cocos people full rights as Australian citizens. Their children are already educated under the Western Australian school system and they are reliant on that state for their communications and shipping.

The federal government has also pledged a 10-million-dollar (\$9.5 million) housing grant if they integrate.



Smiling peace women hold up a banner saying 'Evict Cruise Not Camp' outside the gates of the Greenham Common Air Base Monday (AP wirephoto).

Police evict campaigners outside U.S. base

GREENHAM COMMON, England (R) — Hundreds of police and bailiffs mounted a dawn operation Wednesday to evict scores of women anti-nuclear protesters from a two-and-a-half-year-old "peace camp" outside a cruise missile base.

The women defiantly set fire to their tents as more than 300 police ringed the camp outside the main gates of the Greenham Common Air base 100 kilometres west of London.

The main road alongside the base was closed off while local bailiffs tore down about 20 makeshift shelters set up by the women in protest at a decision to deploy new U.S. cruise nuclear missiles in Britain.

Fifteen of the women were arrested. The protesters were surrounded as they slept by overwhelming numbers of police.

A police spokesman said the eviction operation — to clear the area for a road-widening scheme — went "very smoothly."

The eviction was to have taken place on Monday but the authorities were deterred when hundreds of women poured into the camp in a show of strength and the news media arrived in force.

The police returned Wednesday

when the number of women had dwindled to about 80. Police formed a cordon around the camp to keep out reinforcements from other encampments.

Gas cylinders and bottles exploded as four tents went up in flames. Bailiffs worked amid thick black smoke to pile blankets and plastic sheeting into garbage crushers.

"We are the women who will never be burnt," a resistant core of about 30 women chanted, vowing they would return.

"Whatever happens we shall be staying at Greenham," said one woman.

NATO allies press Dutch to deploy missiles

CESME, Turkey (R) — NATO defence ministers meeting here have strongly pressed the Netherlands to accept its quota of cruise nuclear missiles, warning of dangers to alliance cohesion if the Dutch let their partners down.

Dutch Defence Minister Jacob de Ruiter told reporters he heard "a very loud and clear chorus of my colleagues" urging his government to deploy the 48 missiles assigned to the Netherlands under a NATO plan to counter Soviet medium-range rockets.

Mr. de Ruiter described Tuesday's session of the NATO nuclear planning group as the most concentrated statement of allied concern he had heard. But he gave no assurances, saying only that the government would make up its mind in late May or June.

West German Defence Minister Manfred Wörner told reporters: "We all expressed the expectation that all NATO states would carry out the decision."

A senior NATO official described the discussion as tough and said ministers had urged the Dutch not to hide behind its uncertain majority in parliament. Opinion polls show a big majority of Dutch people opposed to cruise deployment.

Much of the first part of the two-day Cesme meeting was taken up with briefings by U.S.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger on Washington's ambitious "star wars" research programme on the feasibility of a space-based defence against ballistic missiles.

Mr. Weinberger assured the allies that any system developed by the U.S. would also be capable of defending Western Europe against a nuclear missile attack.

But European ministers, while welcoming the information, expressed worries about the programme and its implications for arms control and nuclear stability.

Mr. Wörner said: "My impression is that the Europeans were broadly united in their critical questions."

COLUMNS 7&8

World population growth rate declines

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The rate of growth of the world's population appears to be declining, according to a United Nations report. During the past 10 years, after reaching a record peak of 2.1 per cent, the rate of growth at the beginning of the 1980s stood at 1.7 per cent, it said. The downward trend in the developing regions was strongly influenced by a rapid decline in China's growth rate. If China were excluded, the growth rate for the remaining developing countries, representing slightly more than half of the world population, would show only a very slight decline. This is because the reduction in fertility within this group was almost entirely offset by the decline in mortality.

Cunard sued for \$2m

LOS ANGELES (R) — An elderly couple sued the Cunard shipping line for \$2 million, claiming a shipboard hypnotic act during their honeymoon left the woman "unable to perform the pleasures and duties" of a wife. Fred Biles, 67, and Rosa Biles, 66, of Leisureworld village near Laguna, California, alleged in a civil suit filed in Los Angeles federal court that a hypnotist put the woman into a trance during a show on board the liner Queen Elizabeth II. The Biles were on their honeymoon at the time.

Spirits quit classrooms for hell

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia (R) — A witchdoctor said Wednesday he told spirits haunting a school near here to go to hell — and they promptly departed. The secondary school with 500 students re-opened Wednesday following overnight exorcism rites by two witchdoctors called in by education authorities after 55 students, mainly girls, were struck by mass hysteria on Tuesday. "The students are very calm today," school principal Jaibin Sindan said, adding that witchdoctors Samian Saradi, 35, and Wadi Matsih, 30, negotiated with the spirits. Samian said the spirits were angry at being "rudely awakened" from their "slumber" by sports and other activities.

New bra said to shrink breast lumps

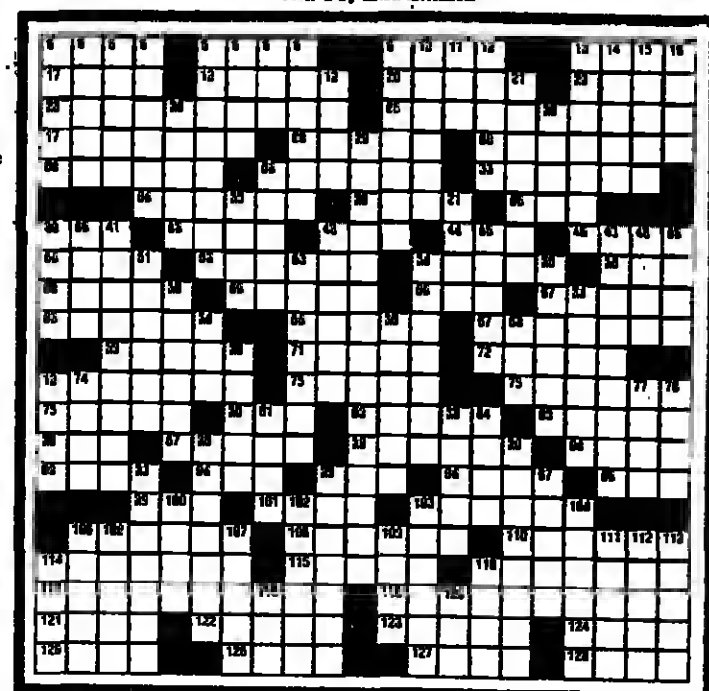
PEKING (R) — Chinese doctors say a magnetised bra can shrink non-cancerous breast lumps without surgery, but they confess they don't know why, the China Daily said Wednesday. A medical conference in Shanghai heard that 218 women suffering from a painful breast condition called cystic hyperplasia wore the brassieres under clinical test conditions. "In 102 cases the condition has completely or nearly cleared up while another 96 have measurably improved," the report said. The special bra incorporates five tiny magnetised panels of cobalt, copper and cerium, two held in place over a special acupuncture point and the other three over the lump itself.

Egyptian buys Welsh mountain

LONDON (R) — An Egyptian has bought a mountain in Wales and two remote islands off Scotland's west coast, bringing his collection of Scottish islands to seven, the Daily Mail newspaper reported Wednesday. Ony Nathan, a 28-year-old property dealer who describes himself as a romantic, said he had never visited Wales nor seen his islands. His other assets include a disused British lead mine. The 22,000 acre (8,900 hectare) black mountain estate in south Wales cost him more than £250,000 (\$360,000) at auction Tuesday.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etemson



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Elegant empathetic elephant emphatically endorsed eagle's early election.
2. Fine top pop star caps career with new show in classy style of yore.
3. Clancy lady, afraid of murder, chased him away with her lead sheets.
4. Mouse's dream house was made from piece of ripe Swiss cheese.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. YL RINGS XTEORT MGAIWAEZMIG IXLWEZIW
2. CEVCDR NIISHER VA YSUCUCK TRASHR UG
3. SEEOILING ODLING UGHLINGN AGUL 20
4. ITOOK YNRCNOFCK HFOOY EFTONANCY ETC

—By Ed Haddleson

—By Philip F. Brumack

—By E.L. Livingston

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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IF YOU DRINK THE WATER YOU DIE ...

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 87
♥ A 103
♦ J 83
♣ A J 654
WEST EAST
♠ A Q J 9 4 3 2 10
♥ 9 6 4
♦ Q
♣ A Q 9 6 5 4 2
♠ K
♦ 10 7 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K 65
♥ K J 8 7 5 2
♦ K
♣ 9 8

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♣.

In an exciting and close final, Brazil edged Argentina in the South American Championships. In so doing, the Brazilians qualified to represent their zone in the World Championships, about to start in Sweden.

On this hand from the final, Argentina had the upper hand. A fairly straightforward auction saw Argentina's South become declarer at a contract of four

hearts, which is in jeopardy because of the prospect of losing three spade tricks and a diamond.

West was reluctant to make an aggressive lead for fear that it might cost a trick, so he settled on a trump. Declarer drew all the outstanding trumps, then led a low club. When the king appeared, he took three rounds of clubs and then ruffed a club to set up a long club in dummy. Now he exited with a spade.

If West played a spade honor, he would be forced to return a diamond, and the same position would result as described below. Instead, he opted to play low, and East won the ten of spades.

The best East could do was to cash the ace of diamonds and continue with the queen. But declarer countered neatly by refusing to ruff, instead discarding a spade from his hand. East had nothing left but diamonds, and his forced continuation of that suit permitted declarer to pitch his remaining spade as dummy's jack won the trick. Declarer lost only one spade trick and two diamonds.